

sections 28 and 29, township 16 south, range 11 west, New Mexico principal meridian, be, and the same hereby is, accepted.

SEC. 2. The Commissioner of Work Projects is hereby authorized and directed to acquire by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, such other lands and interests in land as he may deem necessary for use in connection with the maintenance of said dam and reservoir and to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 3. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 2 of this Act, the Commissioner of Work Projects is hereby authorized to use funds heretofore or hereafter appropriated to, or for, the Work Projects Administration.

Approved, August 4, 1939.

Acquisition of other lands.

Use of funds authorized.

[CHAPTER 421]

### JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide for the adjudication by a Commissioner of claims of American nationals against the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

August 4, 1939  
[H. J. Res. 315]  
[Pub. Res., No. 36]

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint a Commissioner learned in the law to determine the validity and amounts of the claims of American nationals against the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and to fill any vacancy in the same manner that the original appointment was made.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.  
Adjudication of claims against Government of.  
Appointment of Commissioner.

SEC. 2. The salary of the Commissioner shall be at the rate of \$9,000 a year. He shall have a secretary and such additional legal, clerical, and other assistants as may be approved and appointed by the Secretary of State, and at such rates of compensation as may be fixed by him within the limits of appropriated funds. Such persons may be appointed without reference to civil-service laws and rules or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended.

Commissioner's salary; secretary and other assistants.

SEC. 3. The Commissioner shall be allowed the necessary actual expenses of office rent, furniture, stationery, books, printing, travel expenses when on official business outside the city of Washington, and other incidental expenses which he may certify as necessary and which shall be approved by the Secretary of State.

5 U. S. C. §§ 661-674; Supp. IV, §§ 673, 673c.

Expense allowances.

SEC. 4. Before entering upon his duties the Commissioner shall take a solemn oath faithfully and impartially to examine the claims and to give his decisions in accordance with his best judgment and such principles of law as may be applicable. The decisions of the Commissioner shall be in writing, and shall be final and conclusive as to the merits of all cases decided. No claim within the Commissioner's jurisdiction which shall not have been presented to him within twelve months from the date he enters upon the duties of his office shall be considered by him.

Oath of office.

Decisions.

Time limitation for filing claims.

SEC. 5. (a) The Commissioner shall perform his duties in the city of Washington beginning within a period of fifteen days from the date of his appointment. He shall as soon as practicable make all necessary rules and regulations not inconsistent with this resolution or the laws of the United States, governing the method of procedure before him in carrying into effect the provisions of this resolution.

Location of office, method of procedure, etc.

(b) For the purpose of any investigation which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act, he is empowered to administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, take evidence, and require the production of books, papers, or other documents which he considers relevant to any case within his jurisdiction. Any person knowingly and willfully swearing or affirming falsely in any such proceedings shall be deemed guilty of

Administration of oaths.

Perjury.

perjury and shall, upon conviction, suffer the punishment provided by the laws of the United States for that offense when committed in its courts of justice.

(c) The attendance of witnesses and the production of documentary evidence may be required from any place in the United States at any designated place of hearing. Any failure to attend as a witness or to testify as a witness or to produce documentary evidence in an appropriate case may be regarded as a contempt of the authority of the Commissioner and shall be punishable in any court of the United States in the same manner as is provided by the laws of the United States for that offense when committed in its courts of justice.

SEC. 6. The work of the Commissioner shall be completed within two years from the date on which he undertakes the performance of his duties, at which time the authority vested in him by this resolution shall terminate.

SEC. 7. The Commissioner shall upon the completion of his work submit a written report to the Secretary of State. This report shall include a statement of the expenses of the Commissioner, a list of all claims presented to him, and his decision in each case.

SEC. 8. When the work of the Commissioner is terminated, the records, books, documents, and all property of the United States, in the possession of the Commissioner or his staff, shall be turned over to the Secretary of State.

SEC. 9. Appropriations are hereby authorized for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this resolution, not exceeding \$25,000 in any year.

SEC. 10. Any and all expenditures made in carrying out this resolution shall be a first charge on any moneys which have been received, or may hereafter be received, in settlement of the claims described in section 1.

Approved, August 4, 1939.

[CHAPTER 426]

AN ACT

To amend further the Civil Service Retirement Act, approved May 29, 1930.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.* That section 3 of the Act of May 29, 1930, as amended, is amended by striking out all of that portion thereof beginning with paragraph (g) and continuing to the end of the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“(g) This Act shall not apply to such employees of the Lighthouse Service as come within the provisions of section 6 of the Act of June 20, 1918, entitled ‘An Act to authorize aids to navigation and for other works in the Lighthouse Service, and for other purposes’, nor to members of the police and fire departments of the municipal government of the District of Columbia, nor to such employees or groups of employees as may have been before the effective date of this Act excluded by Executive orders from the benefits of the Act of May 22, 1920, and amendments thereof.

“(h) The provisions of this Act may be extended by Executive order, upon recommendation of the Civil Service Commission, to apply to any employee or group of employees in the civil service of the United States not included at the time of its passage. The President shall have power, in his discretion, to exclude from the operation of this Act any employee or group of employees in the civil service whose tenure of office or employment is intermittent or of uncertain duration.

Attendance of witnesses and production of documentary evidence. Enforcement.

Completion within two years.

Report.

Transfer of records, etc., to Secretary of State upon termination of work.

Appropriation authorized.

Administrative expenses a first charge on moneys received.

August 4, 1939 [S. 281] [Public, No. 263]

Civil Service Retirement Act, amendments. 46 Stat. 471. 5 U. S. C. § 693; Supp. IV, § 693. Exclusions. Lighthouse Service employees. 40 Stat. 608. 33 U. S. C. § 763.

Police and fire departments, D. C. Employees excluded by Executive orders.

Extension of provisions by Executive order.

Discretionary exclusion if tenure intermittent, etc.