

[CHAPTER 514]

AN ACT

December 3, 1945
[H. R. 3979]
[Public Law 242]

To extend for the period of one year the provisions of the District of Columbia Emergency Rent Act, approved December 2, 1941, as amended.

D. C. Emergency
Rent Act, extension.

55 Stat. 788.
D. C. Code, Supp.
IV, § 45-1601 (b).

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to regulate rents in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes", approved December 2, 1941, as amended, is further amended by striking in section 1 (b) thereof the figure "1945" and inserting in lieu thereof "1946".

Approved December 3, 1945.

[CHAPTER 515]

AN ACT

December 3, 1945
[H. R. 4350]
[Public Law 243]

To amend section 3646 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, relating to the issuance of checks in replacement of lost, stolen, destroyed, mutilated, or defaced checks of the United States, and for other purposes.

Lost, etc., U. S.
checks.
Issuance of substi-
tute checks.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 3646 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., title 31, sec. 528), is further amended to read as follows:

"(a) Except as hereinafter provided, whenever it is clearly proved to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury that any original check of the United States is lost, stolen, or wholly or partly destroyed, or is so mutilated or defaced as to impair its value to its owner or holder, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized, before the close of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the original check was issued to transfer the amount of the original check from the account of the drawer to a special deposit account carried in the name of the Secretary of the Treasury on the books of the Treasurer of the United States, and to issue against such special deposit account to the owner or holder thereof a substitute under current date showing such information as may be necessary to identify the original check, upon the receipt and approval by the Secretary of the Treasury of an undertaking to indemnify the United States, in such form and amount and with such surety, sureties, or security, if any, as the Secretary of the Treasury may require; but no such substitute shall be payable if the original check shall first have been paid: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be deemed to relieve any certifying officer or his sureties or any disbursing officer or his sureties of any liability to the United States on account of any payment resulting from the erroneous issuance of the original check: *And provided further*, That the authority herein conferred to issue substitute checks may, in the case of checks issued on account of public-debt obligations and transactions regarding the administration of banking and currency laws, be exercised without limitation of time.

Restriction.

Liability of certifying or disbursing officer.

Public-debt obligations, etc.

Undertakings of indemnity; exceptions to requirement.

"(b) An undertaking of indemnity shall not be required under subsection (a) of this section in any of the following classes of cases except as provided in this subsection: (1) If the Secretary of the Treasury is satisfied that the loss, theft, destruction, mutilation, or defacement, as the case may be, occurred without fault of the owner or holder and while the check was in the custody or control of the United States (including the postal service when carrying mail for any officer, employee, agent, or agency of the United States when performing services in connection with an official function of the United States, but not including the postal service when otherwise acting solely in its capacity as a public carrier of the mail), or of a

Postal service.

person thereunto duly authorized as lawful agent of the United States, or while it was in the course of shipment effected pursuant to and in accordance with the regulations issued under the provisions of the Government Losses in Shipment Act; (2) if substantially the entire check is presented and surrendered by the owner or holder and the Secretary of the Treasury is satisfied as to the identity of the check presented and that any missing portions are not sufficient to form the basis of a valid claim against the United States; (3) if the Secretary of the Treasury is satisfied that the original check is not negotiable and cannot be made the basis of a valid claim against the United States; (4) if the amount of the check is not more than \$200; (5) if the owner or holder is the United States or an officer or employee thereof in his official capacity, a State, the District of Columbia, a Territory or possession of the United States, including the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands, a municipal corporation or political subdivision of any of the foregoing, a corporation, the whole of whose capital is owned by the United States, a foreign government, or a Federal Reserve bank: *Provided, however,* That in any of the foregoing classes of cases the Secretary of the Treasury may require an undertaking of indemnity if he deems it essential to the public interest.

“(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section whenever it is clearly proved to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury that any original check of the United States drawn on a depository in a foreign country or a Territory or possession of the United States, including the Panama Canal Zone and the Philippine Islands, is lost, stolen, or wholly or partly destroyed, or is so mutilated or defaced as to impair its value to its owner or holder, the drawer of the original check or such other officer or employee of the United States as may be authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury with the concurrence of the head of the department or agency upon whose behalf the original check was issued is authorized, before the close of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the original check was issued, to issue to the owner or holder thereof a substitute under current date showing such information as may be necessary to identify the original check, drawn against the account of the drawer of the original check or such other account as may be available for the payment of such substitute, upon the receipt and approval by the Secretary of the Treasury of an undertaking, to indemnify the United States, in such form and amount and with such surety, sureties, or security, if any, as the Secretary of the Treasury may require; but no such substitute shall be payable if the original check shall first have been paid. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to relieve any certifying officer or his sureties or any disbursing officer or his sureties of any liability to the United States on account of any payment resulting from the erroneous issuance of the original check.

“(d) The Secretary of the Treasury shall have the power to make such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary for the administration of the provisions of this section.

“(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this section, whenever any original check of the Post Office Department has been lost, stolen, or destroyed, the Postmaster General may authorize the issuance of a substitute, marked ‘duplicate’ and showing the number, date, and payee of the original check, before the close of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the original check was issued, upon the execution by the owner thereof of such bond of indemnity as the Postmaster General may prescribe: *Provided,* That when such original check does not exceed in amount

50 Stat. 470.
5 U. S. C. § 134g.

U. S. checks drawn on depository in foreign country, etc.

Liability of certifying or disbursing officer.

Rules and regulations.

Post Office Department.
Duplicate checks.

Indemnity bond.

Affidavit in lieu.

the sum of \$100 and the payee or owner is, at the date of the application, an officer or employee in the service of the Post Office Department, whether by contract, designation, or appointment, the Postmaster General may, in lieu of an indemnity bond, authorize the issuance of a substitute check or warrant upon such an affidavit as he may prescribe, to be made before any postmaster by the payee or owner of an original check.

Payment of substitute checks.

48 Stat. 1235.

"Original check."

"(f) Substitutes issued under this section, drawn on the Treasurer of the United States, except those for checks issued on account of public-debt obligations and transactions regarding the administration of banking and currency laws, shall be deemed to be original checks and shall be payable under the conditions set forth in section 21 of the Permanent Appropriation Repeal Act, 1934 (U. S. C., title 31, sec. 725t). Substitutes for checks issued on account of public-debt obligations and transactions regarding the administration of banking and currency laws shall be payable without limitation of time.

"(g) The term 'original check' wherever used in this section means any check, warrant, or other order for the payment of money, payable upon demand and not bearing interest, drawn by a duly authorized officer or agent of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the District Unemployment Compensation Board, on their behalf against an account or funds of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the District Unemployment Compensation Board, including instruments issued by any corporation or other entity owned or controlled by the United States, the funds of which are deposited and covered into the Treasury of the United States or deposited with the Treasurer of the United States, but does not include money, coins, or currency of the United States; as used in subsection (e) of this section it means such an instrument drawn by a duly authorized officer or employee of the Post Office Department.

Delegation of authority.

"(h) Any power, authority, or discretion conferred upon the Secretary of the Treasury by this section may be delegated by him, in whole or in part, subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to such individuals as he may designate within the Treasury Department or to the head of any other department or agency of the Government or of any Federal Reserve bank, and the head of such department or agency or Federal Reserve bank may, when such action is not inconsistent with the terms and conditions of the delegation by the Secretary of the Treasury, redelegate any power, authority, or discretion conferred upon him pursuant to this subsection to any officer or employee within such department, agency, or Federal Reserve bank."

Repeal.

SEC. 2. Sections 300 and 3647 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (U. S. C., title 31, sec. 119), are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. This Act shall become effective on December 1, 1945.

Approved December 3, 1945.

[CHAPTER 516]

AN ACT

December 3, 1945
[H. R. 4411]
[Public Law 244]

To adjust the pay and allowances of members of the Navy Nurse Corps, and for other purposes.

Navy Nurse Corps.
Pay and allowances.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That during the effective period as defined in section 4 hereof, (a) each member of the Navy Nurse Corps shall receive the same pay, money allowances for subsistence and for rental of quarters, mileage and other travel allow-