

April 19, 1908.  
[H. R. 15653.]

[Public, No. 98.]

**CHAP. 147.**—An Act To increase the pension of widows, minor children, and so forth, of deceased soldiers and sailors of the late civil war, the war with Mexico, the various Indian wars, and so forth, and to grant a pension to certain widows of the deceased soldiers and sailors of the late civil war.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the passage of this Act the rate of pension for widows, minor children under the age of sixteen years, and helpless minors as defined by existing laws, now on the roll or hereafter to be placed on the pension roll and entitled to receive a less rate than hereinafter provided, shall be twelve dollars per month; and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the existing allowance of two dollars per month for each child under the age of sixteen years and for each helpless child; and all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed: *Provided, however,* That this Act shall not be so construed as to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private.

Pensions.  
Increase of, to wid-  
ows, etc.

Amount per month.

*Proviso.*  
No reduction.

Widows of soldiers  
and sailors who served  
90 days, etc.  
Death incident to  
service not required.

Marriage prior to  
June 27, 1890.  
Additional cases.

Vol. 28, p. 970.  
Vol. 32, p. 750.  
Vol. 34, p. 836.

Attorneys', etc., fees  
restricted.

Amount.

Penalty.

**SEC. 2.** That if any officer or enlisted man who served ninety days or more in the Army or Navy of the United States during the late civil war and who has been honorably discharged therefrom has died or shall hereafter die, leaving a widow, such widow shall, upon due proof of her husband's death, without proving his death to be the result of his army or navy service, be placed on the pension roll from the date of the filing of her application therefor under this Act at the rate of twelve dollars per month during her widowhood, provided that said widow shall have married said soldier or sailor prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety; and the benefits of this section shall include those widows whose husbands if living would have a pensionable status under the Joint Resolutions of February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, July first, nineteen hundred and two, and June twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and six.

**SEC. 3.** That no claim agent or attorney shall be recognized in the adjudication of claims under the first section of this Act, and that no agent, attorney, or other person engaged in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under the provisions of the second section of this Act shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain for such services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting such claim a sum greater than ten dollars, which sum shall be payable only upon the order of the Commissioner of Pensions by the pension agent making payment of the pension allowed; and any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section or who shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of a pension or claim allowed or due such pensioner or claimant under this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every such offense, be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars or be imprisoned at hard labor not exceeding two years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Approved, April 19, 1908.

April 20, 1908.  
[H. R. 17305.]

[Public, No. 99.]

**CHAP. 148.**—An Act To regulate the establishment and maintenance of private hospitals and asylums in the District of Columbia.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That no person shall in the District of Columbia establish or maintain any private hospital or asylum, either for the reception of human beings or of domestic animals, unless or until licensed by the Commissioners of said District.

**SEC. 2.** That it shall be the duty of the health officer of the District of Columbia, and of such agents and employees in the service of the health department of said District as he may designate for that pur-

District of Columbia.  
Private hospitals  
and asylums to be  
licensed.

Health officer to en-  
force regulations.

pose, to enforce the provisions of this Act and of all regulations made by authority thereof; and said health officer and agents and employees are hereby authorized, in the performance of the duty aforesaid, to enter and inspect during all reasonable hours all private hospitals and asylums in said District. No person shall interfere with said health officer, or with any agent or employee aforesaid, in the performance of his official duty, nor hinder, prevent, or refuse to permit any inspection authorized by this Act.

Inspection.

Noninterference with inspectors.

Penalty for violation.

SEC. 3. That any person who, for himself or as the employee or agent of another person, or as a member, officer, or employee of a firm or corporation, violates any of the provisions of this Act or any regulations made hereunder by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, or aids in the violation thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or by both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 4. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be, and they are hereby, authorized and empowered to promulgate from time to time such regulations as in their judgment public interests require to govern the establishment and maintenance of private hospitals and asylums, whether for human beings or for domestic animals, and to regulate the issue, suspension, and revocation of licenses aforesaid.

Regulations.

SEC. 5. That all prosecutions under this Act shall be in the police court of the District of Columbia upon information signed by the corporation counsel of said District or by one of his assistants.

Prosecutions.

SEC. 6. That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Repeal.

Approved, April 20, 1908.

CHAP. 149.—An Act Relating to the liability of common carriers by railroad to their employees in certain cases.

April 22, 1908.  
[H. R. 20310.]

[Public, No. 100.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That every common carrier by railroad while engaging in commerce between any of the several States or Territories, or between any of the States and Territories, or between the District of Columbia and any of the States or Territories, or between the District of Columbia or any of the States or Territories and any foreign nation or nations, shall be liable in damages to any person suffering injury while he is employed by such carrier in such commerce, or, in case of the death of such employee, to his or her personal representative, for the benefit of the surviving widow or husband and children of such employee; and, if none, then of such employee's parents; and, if none, then of the next of kin dependent upon such employee, for such injury or death resulting in whole or in part from the negligence of any of the officers, agents, or employees of such carrier, or by reason of any defect or insufficiency, due to its negligence, in its cars, engines, appliances, machinery, track, roadbed, works, boats, wharves, or other equipment.

Railroad common carriers.  
Liability of, for injuries, etc., to employees from negligence.

SEC. 2. That every common carrier by railroad in the Territories, the District of Columbia, the Panama Canal Zone, or other possessions of the United States shall be liable in damages to any person suffering injury while he is employed by such carrier in any of said jurisdictions, or, in case of the death of such employee, to his or her personal representative, for the benefit of the surviving widow or husband and children of such employee; and, if none, then of such employee's parents; and, if none, then of the next of kin dependent upon such employee, for such injury or death resulting in whole or in part from the negligence of any of the officers, agents, or employees

Damages for injuries, etc., in Territories, etc.

Negligence of officers, etc.