

# PUBLIC LAWS OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

OF THE

## UNITED STATES

*Passed at the second session, which was begun and held at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on Monday, the third day of December, 1917, and was adjourned without day on Thursday, the twenty-first day of November, 1918.*

WOODROW WILSON, President; THOMAS R. MARSHALL, Vice President; WILLARD SAULSBURY, President of the Senate *pro tempore*; JOHN H. BANKHEAD, Acting President *pro tempore*, January 17, July 5, 22 to 29, August 1 to 12, September 30, October 17 to 21, 1918; JOSIAH H. WOLCOTT, Acting President *pro tempore*, March 26 and 27, 1918; JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, Acting President *pro tempore*, October 24 to November 1, 1918; OSCAR W. UNDERWOOD, Acting President *pro tempore*, November 2, 1918; MORRIS SHEPPARD, Acting President *pro tempore*, November 4, 1918; CHAMP CLARK, Speaker of the House of Representatives; CLAUDE KITCHIN, Speaker *pro tempore*, April 16 to 20, May 11, August 8, 19, and 29, 1918; FINIS J. GARRETT, Speaker *pro tempore*, September 11 and 12, November 1 to 7, 1918; CHARLES R. CRISP, Speaker *pro tempore*, September 21, 1918; COURTNEY W. HAMLIN, Speaker *pro tempore*, September 25, 1918; MARTIN T. FOSTER, Speaker *pro tempore*, September 28 and 30, 1918.

**CHAP. 1.**—Joint Resolution Declaring that a state of war exists between the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government and the Government and the people of the United States, and making provision to prosecute the same.

December 7, 1917.  
[H. J. Res. 169.]

[Pub. Res., No. 17.]

Preamble.

Whereas the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government has committed repeated acts of war against the Government and the people of the United States of America: Therefore be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That a state of war is hereby declared to exist between the United States of America and the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government; and that the President be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

War with Austria-Hungary.  
Declaration of.  
*Post*, p. 1739.

President authorized to use Army, Navy, etc., to prosecute.

Approved, December 7, 1917.

**CHAP. 3.**—An Act Making appropriations to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighteen, and for other purposes.

December 15, 1917.  
[H. R. 7572.]

[Public, No. 92.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to supply deficiencies in appropriations for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighteen, and for other purposes, namely:

Deficiencies appropriations.

### EXECUTIVE.

Executive.

The appropriation of \$100,000,000 "for the national security and defense, and for each and every purpose connected therewith, to be expended at the discretion of the President," contained in the general deficiency appropriation Act approved April seventeenth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, is continued and made available until June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighteen.

Continuation of appropriation for national defense.

*Ante*, p. 28.

Legislative.

## LEGISLATIVE.

Senate.

SENATE.

Mileage.

For mileage of Senators, \$51,000.

House of Representatives.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mileage.

For mileage of Representatives and Delegates and expenses of Resident Commissioners, \$175,000.

Approved, December 15, 1917.

December 18, 1917.

[H. J. Res. 193.]

[Pub. Res., No. 18.]

Congressional officers, etc., to be paid December, 1917, salaries on day of adjournment for holiday recess.

Clerk hire of Members and Delegates.

**CHAP. 4.**—Joint Resolution Authorizing the payment of salaries of officers and employees of Congress for December, nineteen hundred and seventeen.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives are authorized and instructed to pay the officers and employees of the Senate and House of Representatives, including the Capitol police, their respective salaries for the month of December, nineteen hundred and seventeen, on the day of adjournment of the present session for the holiday recess; and the Clerk of the House is authorized to pay on the same day to Members, Delegates, and Resident Commissioners their allowance for clerk hire for the said month of December.

Approved, December 18, 1917.

December 20, 1917.

[H. R. 6967.]

[Public, No. 93.]

Naval Academy. Allowance of midshipmen increased. R. S., sec. 1513, p. 260, amended. Vol. 39, pp. 9, 576, 1182.

Inconsistent laws repealed.

**CHAP. 5.**—An Act To increase the number of midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That hereafter there shall be allowed at the United States Naval Academy five midshipmen for each Senator, Representative, and Delegate in Congress, one for Porto Rico, two for the District of Columbia, fifteen appointed each year at large, and one hundred appointed annually from enlisted men of the Navy, as now authorized by law.

**SEC. 2.** That all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved, December 20, 1917.

December 20, 1917.

[S. 2334.]

[Public, No. 94.]

Public lands. Homesteaders allowed leave of absence for farm labor elsewhere.

Provisos. Notice before leaving claim.

**CHAP. 6.**—An Act To authorize absence by homestead settlers and entrymen, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That during the pendency of the existing war any homestead settler or entryman shall be entitled to a leave of absence from his land for the purpose of performing farm labor, and such absence, while actually engaged in farm labor, shall, upon compliance with the terms of this Act, be counted as constructive residence: *Provided,* That each settler or entryman within fifteen days after leaving his claim for the purpose herein provided shall file notice thereof in the United States Land Office, and at the expiration of the calendar year file in said land office of the district wherein his claim is situated a written statement, under oath and corroborated by two witnesses, giving the date or dates when he left his claim, date or