

Whereas the General Assembly of the State of Ohio by act approved the 18th day of May 1937 ratified and approved said compact or agreement: Now, therefore

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the aforesaid compact or agreement be, and the same is hereby, approved pursuant to the provisions of a joint resolution of Congress approved the 8th day of June 1936.

Approved, August 28, 1937.

Compact approved.  
49 Stat. 1490.  
33 U. S. C., Supp.  
II, § 567a.

[CHAPTER 870]

AN ACT

To promote conservation in the arid and semiarid areas of the United States by aiding in the development of facilities for water storage and utilization, and for other purposes.

August 28, 1937  
[S. 2863]  
[Public, No. 399]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That it is hereby recognized that the wastage and inadequate utilization of water resources on farm, grazing, and forest lands in the arid and semiarid areas of the United States resulting from inadequate facilities for water storage and utilization contribute to the destruction of natural resources, injuries to public health and public lands, droughts, periodic floods, crop failures, decline in standards of living, and excessive dependence upon public relief, and thereby menace the national welfare. It is therefore hereby declared to be the policy of Congress to assist in providing facilities for water storage and utilization in the arid and semiarid areas of the United States.

Conservation in arid and semiarid areas.

Policy declared.

SEC. 2. In order to effectuate this policy and promote proper land use in the said areas, the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized, from time to time—

Powers of Secretary of Agriculture.

(1) To formulate and keep current a program of projects for the construction and maintenance in the said areas of ponds, reservoirs, wells, check-dams, pumping installations, and other facilities for water storage or utilization, together with appurtenances to such facilities. The facilities to be included within such program shall be located where they will promote the proper utilization of lands and no such facilities shall be located where they will encourage the cultivation of lands which are submarginal and which should be devoted to other uses in the public interest;

Program of projects for water-storage facilities.

Location of facilities.

(2) To construct and to sell or lease, with or without a money consideration, under such terms and conditions as will advance the purposes of this Act, the facilities mentioned in section 2 (1) and included within the program there provided for, including the lands upon which such facilities are located if they have been acquired or reserved for the purposes of this Act;

Sale or lease.

(3) To cooperate or enter into agreements with, or to furnish financial or other aid to, any agency, governmental or otherwise, or any person, subject to such conditions as he may deem necessary for the purposes of this Act; and

Cooperation, etc., with agencies, etc.

(4) To obtain options upon and to acquire lands, or rights or interests therein, or rights to the use of water, by purchase, lease, gift, exchange, condemnation, or otherwise, only when necessary for the purposes of this Act.

Acquisition of land, interests, etc.

SEC. 3. The facilities included in the program provided for in section 2 (1) may be located—

Location of facilities.

(a) On lands owned or controlled by the United States or any of its agencies, with the cooperation of the agency having jurisdiction thereof; and

Federal, etc., lands.

Other lands with consent.

(b) On any other lands upon obtaining proper consent or the necessary rights or interests in such lands.

Conditions requisite.

SEC. 4. As a condition to extending benefits under this Act to any lands not owned or controlled by the United States or any of its agencies, the Secretary of Agriculture may, insofar as he may deem necessary for the purposes of this Act, require—

Local legislation.

(1) The enactment of State and local laws providing for soil conserving land uses and practices, and the storage, conservation and equitable utilization of waters;

Agreements.

(2) Agreements or covenants in regard to the maintenance and permanent use of such water, facilities, or lands benefited by such facilities;

Contributions.

(3) Contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise to any operations conferring such benefits.

Administrative personnel.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of Agriculture, in administering the provisions of this Act, shall utilize the officers, employees, and facilities of agencies within the Department of Agriculture whose functions are related to the program provided for in this Act, and may allot to such agencies or transfer to such other agencies of the Federal Government as he may request to assist in carrying out any of the provisions of this Act, any funds available for the purposes of this Act.

Other powers.

SEC. 6. For the purposes of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may—

Cooperation of governmental agencies.  
Personal services and expenses.

(1) Secure the cooperation of any governmental agency;  
(2) Make expenditures for personal services and rent in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, for the purchase of law books and books of reference, for printing and binding, for the purchase, exchange, operation, and maintenance of passenger-carrying vehicles, for supplies and equipment, for traveling expenses and for other administrative expenses; and

Rules, etc.

(3) Perform such acts, and prescribe such rules and regulations as he may deem proper to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Sums authorized.

SEC. 7. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of this Act such sums as Congress may from time to time determine to be necessary.

Approved, August 28, 1937.

[CHAPTER 871]

AN ACT

To amend the Revenue Act of 1926, as amended, to exempt persons traveling between Puerto Rico and the continental United States from the payment of a stamp tax on steamship tickets.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That subdivision 5 of schedule A of title VIII of the Revenue Act of 1926, as amended by section 442 (a) of the Revenue Act of May 29, 1928, be, and hereby is, amended by striking out the word "or" before the word "Cuba" and by adding the words "or Puerto Rico" after the word "Cuba".

Approved, August 28, 1937.

August 28, 1937  
[H. R. 1481]  
[Public, No. 400]

Revenue Act of 1926, amendment.  
Tax exemption on steamship tickets to Puerto Rico.  
44 Stat. 103; 45 Stat. 867.  
26 U. S. C. § 905.