

Nebraska, and Sioux City, Iowa, authorized to be built by the county of Dakota, State of Nebraska, by section 30 of the Act of Congress approved August 30, 1935, heretofore extended by Act of Congress approved June 19, 1936, are hereby further extended one and three years, respectively, from August 30, 1937.

SEC. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 24, 1937.

[CHAPTER 49]

AN ACT

To amend section 4551 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., 1934 ed., Supp. II, title 46, sec. 643).

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 4551 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended (U. S. C., 1934 ed., Supp. II, title 46, sec. 643), is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4551. (a) Every seaman upon a merchant vessel of the United States of the burden of one hundred gross tons or upward, except vessels employed exclusively in trade on the navigable rivers of the United States, shall be furnished, at the option of the seaman, with a book to be known as a continuous discharge book or with a certificate of identification, which book or certificate shall be retained by the seaman and shall contain the signature of the seaman to whom it is so furnished and a statement of his nationality, age, personal description, photograph, thumbprint, and home address. Such books or certificates shall be issued by the shipping commissioners, or, at ports where no shipping commissioners have been appointed, by collectors or deputy collectors of customs or United States local inspectors of steam vessels, in such manner and form as the Director of the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Commerce, shall determine. Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or association which shall issue any such book or certificate, or make any statement or endorsement therein, except as authorized by the provisions of this section, or issue any imitation of any such book or certificate, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be imprisoned not less than one month nor more than three months, in the discretion of the court.

"(b) Any person applying for such book or certificate and claiming to be a citizen of the United States shall furnish satisfactory evidence of such citizenship.

"(c) No seaman shall be employed on any vessel to which this section applies until he has exhibited a certificate of identification or a continuous discharge book to the shipping commissioner, or in cases where seamen are not signed on before the shipping commissioner, to the master of the vessel: *Provided*, That the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the employment of seamen at a foreign port or place, in which case seamen so employed shall be furnished a continuous discharge book or a certificate of identification, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, at the first port of entry in the United States or its territories at which the vessel arrives after such seamen are so employed.

"(d) Upon the discharge of any seaman and the payment of his wages, the shipping commissioner shall enter in the continuous discharge book of such seaman, if the seaman carries such a book, the name and official number of the vessel, the nature of the voyage (foreign, intercoastal, or coastwise), the class to which the vessel

49 Stat. 1073, 1530.

Amendment.

March 24, 1937  
[H. R. 5487]  
[Public, No. 25]

Merchant seamen.  
R. S. § 4551.  
46 U. S. C., Supp. II,  
§ 643.

Continuous discharge book or certificate of identification.

Contents.

Issuance by shipping commissioners, etc.

Unauthorized entries, etc.

Penalty.

Citizenship requirements.

Employment without certificate, etc., forbidden.

*Proviso.*  
Foreign ports; requirement.

Entry on seaman's discharge.

Data required.

Certificate of discharge.

Records of service to contain no reference to character or ability of seaman.

Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation; records to be kept by.

Not open for public inspection.

Unlawful acts.

Penalty.

False statements.

Issuance of duplicate in case of loss.

belongs (steam, motor, sail, or barge), the date and place of the shipment and of the discharge of such seaman, the rating (capacity in which employed) then held by such seaman, and the signature of the person making such entries and nothing more.

“(e) For the purpose of furnishing evidence of sea service in the case of seamen preferring the certificate of identification instead of the continuous discharge book, the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation shall provide a certificate of discharge, printed on durable paper, in such form as to specify the name and citizenship of the seaman to whom it is issued, the serial number of his certificate of identification, the name and official number of the vessel, the nature of the voyage (foreign, intercoastal, or coastwise), the class to which the vessel belongs (steam, motor, sail, or barge), the date and place of the shipment and of the discharge of such seaman, and the rating (capacity in which employed) then held by such seaman. Records of service entered in either continuous discharge books or certificates of discharge shall contain no reference to the character or ability of the seaman. The shipping commissioner shall issue such certificate of discharge and make the proper entries therein, which certificate shall be signed by the seaman to whom it is issued and the master of the vessel and shall be witnessed by such shipping commissioner.

“(f) There shall be maintained in the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation in Washington, District of Columbia, a record of every continuous discharge book, certificate of identification, certificate of discharge, and any other certificate issued by the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, together with the name and address of the seaman to whom it is issued and of his next of kin, and certified copies of all entries made in continuous discharge books or certificates of discharge, which entries shall be forwarded to the Bureau by the shipping commissioner or other person making such entries in accordance with the provisions of this section. Records so maintained shall not be open for general or public use or inspection.

“(g) Any person, partnership, company, or corporation who shall require any seaman employed or applying for employment to possess, produce, or carry a continuous discharge book, if and when such seaman possesses or carries an identification certificate, or to carry an identification certificate, if and when such seaman possesses and carries a continuous discharge book, or who shall exchange or give to any other person, partnership, company, or corporation information to cause discrimination against a seaman for electing to carry either an identification certificate or a continuous discharge book, or to prevent a seaman from obtaining employment on that account, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor; and, on conviction thereof, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, at the discretion of the court.

“Seamen shall apply for certificates of identification or continuous discharge books hereunder; and if any application contains any statement known by the applicant to be false, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof before any district court of the United States, shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year, in the discretion of the court.

“(h) In case of the loss of a continuous discharge book, a certificate of identification, or of any certificate of discharge by shipwreck or other casualty, the seaman shall be supplied with a duplicate of such continuous discharge book, certificate of identification, or certificate of discharge in which shall be entered all data that may be

available from the copies of records kept by the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation. In other cases of loss the seaman may obtain a duplicate of such continuous discharge book, certificate of identification, or certificates of discharge, containing the same entries, upon a payment of a sum equivalent to the cost thereof to the Government to be determined from time to time by the Secretary of Commerce.

“(i) The provisions of this section shall not apply to fishing or whaling vessels or yachts.

“(j) The Secretary of Commerce shall enforce this section as to all vessels of the United States subject to the provisions hereof through collectors of customs and other Government officers acting under the direction of the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, and shall make such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

“(k) Where vessels are required to sign on and discharge the crew before a shipping commissioner and no shipping commissioner is appointed or is available the functions and duties required by subsections (d) and (e) of this section to be performed by such shipping commissioner may be performed by a collector or deputy collector of customs; and where vessels are not required to sign on and discharge the crew before a shipping commissioner the duties and functions required by subsections (d) and (e) of this section to be performed by the shipping commissioner shall be performed by the master of such vessel. Any master who shall fail to perform such duties or functions shall be fined in the sum of \$50 for each offense.”

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect as to vessels within the provisions of section 4551 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, as follows: (a) Upon its enactment in the case of such vessels engaged in foreign or intercoastal voyages, and (b) on June 25, 1937, in the case of all other such vessels: *Provided*, That, until June 25, 1937, the Secretary of Commerce is hereby authorized, pending the issuance of permanent certificates of identification and permanent certificates of discharge under such section, to provide for temporary certificates of identification and temporary certificates of discharge, which shall have the same force and effect as the permanent certificates.

Approved, March 24, 1937.

Exemptions.

Administrative provisions.

Effective dates.

*Proviso.*  
Temporary certificates.

#### [CHAPTER 50]

#### JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for the construction and maintenance of a National Gallery of Art.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the area bounded by Seventh Street, Constitution Avenue, Fourth Street, and North Mall Drive, Northwest, in the District of Columbia, is hereby appropriated to the Smithsonian Institution as a site for a National Gallery of Art. The Smithsonian Institution is authorized to permit the A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust (hereinafter referred to as the donor) to construct on said site for the Smithsonian Institution a building to be designated the National Gallery of Art, and to remove any existing structure and landscape the grounds within said area. The adjoining area bounded by Fourth Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, Third Street, and North Mall Drive, Northwest, in the District of Columbia, is hereby reserved as a site

March 24, 1937  
[H. J. Res. 217]  
[Pub. Res., No. 14]

National Gallery of Art.  
Site.

Construction; donor.

Future additions.