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Rights reserved by Congress.

SEC. 303. The right is reserved in the Congress to take such action and to make such changes, modifications, alterations, and improvements in connection with and upon any property acquired under this title, during or after the expiration of any life estate reserved therein, as the Congress shall deem proper and necessary to protect and preserve the same; but neither the improvements so made nor any increase in the value of the property by reason thereof shall be subject to taxation during the existence of any life estate reserved in the property.

Approved, July 18, 1939.

[CHAPTER 328]

AN ACT

July 19, 1939
[S. 1109]
[Public, No. 195]

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to aid the several States in making, or for having made, certain toll bridges on the system of Federal-aid highways free bridges, and for other purposes", by providing that funds available under such Act may be used to match regular and secondary Federal-aid road funds, and for other purposes.

Toll bridges on Federal-aid highways.
50 Stat. 640.
23 U. S. C., Supp. IV, § 9a (note).

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 aid the several States in making, or for having made, certain toll bridges on the system of Federal-aid highways free bridges, and for other purposes", approved August 14, 1937, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Limited aid to, becoming free of tolls prior to July 1, 1941.

"That in the case of each and every State, or political subdivision or subdivisions thereof, which, prior to July 1, 1941, shall have constructed or acquired any toll bridges on the approved system of Federal-aid highways, and which has caused or shall, prior to July 1, 1941, cause any such toll bridge or toll bridges to be made free, the Federal Works Administrator shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to pay out of the regular and secondary Federal-aid road funds apportioned to such State not to exceed 50 per centum of such amount as may be approved by the Federal Works Administrator as the reasonable value or construction cost of any such bridge whichever shall be least: *Provided*, That no payment of Federal funds shall be made on account of any such bridge which was not constructed in accordance with plans and specifications which would meet the standards required by the Secretary of Agriculture at the time such bridge was constructed, nor on account of any bridge the construction of which was completed prior to March 3, 1927: *And provided further*, That no such payment shall be made which will exceed 50 per centum of the reasonable value or cost of the labor and materials which were actually incorporated in the construction of such bridge, excluding all costs of rights-of-way, property damages, and financing costs, whichever, value or cost, shall be least, and any amount so paid on account of any such bridge from regular Federal-aid road funds shall be used for matching unobligated regular Federal-aid road funds available to the State for expenditure in the improvement of highways on the system of Federal-aid highways, and any amount so paid on account of any such bridge from secondary Federal-aid road funds shall be used for matching unobligated secondary Federal-aid road funds available to the State for expenditure in the improvement of secondary or feeder roads."

Funds available.

Amount.

Provisos.
Payments forbidden, if not according to Government standards, etc.

Maximum allowance.

Use of, by State.

52 Stat. 636.
23 U. S. C., Supp. IV, ch. 2 (note).

SEC. 2. That section 10 of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1938 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Surveys, etc., for future construction.

"SEC. 10. With the approval of the Federal Works Administrator not to exceed 1½ per centum of the amount apportioned for any year to any State under the Federal Highway Act, as amended and supplemented, except sections 3 and 23 thereof, shall hereafter be used with or without State funds for surveys, plans, engineering, and economic investigations of projects for future construction in

42 Stat. 212.
23 U. S. C. ch. 1; Supp. IV, ch. 1.

such State, either on the Federal-aid highway system and extensions thereof or on secondary or feeder roads or grade-crossing eliminations."

Approved, July 19, 1939.

[CHAPTER 329]

AN ACT

To restore certain benefits to World War veterans suffering with paralysis, paresis, or blindness, or who are helpless or bedridden, and for other purposes.

July 19, 1939
[H. R. 2296]
[Public, No. 196]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on and after the date of enactment of this Act any World War veteran suffering from paralysis, paresis, or blindness, or who is helpless or bedridden, as the result of any disability, and who was in receipt of compensation therefor on March 19, 1933, may be awarded compensation under the laws and interpretations governing this class of cases prior to the enactment of Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, March 20, 1933, subject, however, to the limitations, except as to misconduct or willful misconduct, contained in sections 27 and 28 of Public Law Numbered 141, Seventy-third Congress, March 28, 1934, as amended by section 5 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, August 16, 1937: *Provided*, That the language herein contained shall not be construed to reduce or discontinue compensation authorized under the provisions of section 26 of Public Law Numbered 141, Seventy-third Congress: *Provided further*, That where a World War veteran dies or has died from disease or injury, service connection of which is or would have been reestablished under the provisions of this Act, his surviving widow, child, or children, if otherwise eligible thereto, shall be awarded death compensation under Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended.

World War veterans.
Certain benefits to, suffering with paralysis, etc., restored.

48 Stat. 8, 524; 50 Stat. 661.
38 U.S.C. §§ 701-721, 471a, 722; Supp. IV, § 424a, ch. 12.
Provisos.
Compensation for blindness.
48 Stat. 524.
38 U. S. C. § 473a.
Death compensation to widows, etc.

48 Stat. 1281.
38 U.S.C. §§ 503-507; Supp. IV, §§ 505a-510.

SEC. 2. Payments to veterans restored to the rolls under the provisions of this Act shall be effective the date of enactment of this Act and payments to widows or children shall be effective the date of enactment of this Act or the date of filing claim therefor, whichever is the later.

Effective date, etc.

Approved, July 19, 1939.

[CHAPTER 330]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act for the grading and classification of clerks in the Foreign Service of the United States of America, and providing compensation therefor", approved February 23, 1931, as amended.

July 19, 1939
[H. R. 6836]
[Public, No. 197]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That paragraph (n) of section 26 of the Act entitled "An Act for the grading and classification of clerks in the Foreign Service of the United States of America, and providing compensation therefor", approved February 23, 1931, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

Foreign Service.
Retirement and disability system.

46 Stat. 1213; *ante*, p. 588.
22 U. S. C. § 21 (n).

"(n) Any diplomatic secretary or consular officer who has been, or any Foreign Service officer who may hereafter be, promoted from the classified service to the grade of Ambassador or Minister, or appointed to a position in the Department of State, shall be entitled to all the benefits of this section in the same manner and under the same conditions as Foreign Service officers: *Provided*, That any officer now included under the Act of May 24, 1924, and the amendment thereto of July 3, 1926, shall be entitled to the benefits of this section: *And provided further*, That hereafter an Ambassador or Minister, or a former Ambassador or Minister, or a person appointed to a position in the Department of State after serving as Ambas-

Officers promoted to Ambassador, Minister or to Department, benefits to.

Provisos.
Officers included under certain other Acts.
43 Stat. 140; 44 Stat. 902.
Future appointments.