

and the Secretary of the Air Force, respectively, subject to the provisions of section 5 of this Act, are hereby authorized to dispose of by public or private sale or otherwise, not less than one year after date of receipt at such storage points as may be designated by the above-mentioned Secretaries, all lost, abandoned, or unclaimed personal property which is now or may hereafter come into the possession, custody, or control of the Treasury Department, the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, or the Department of the Air Force, as the case may be: *Provided*, That diligent effort shall be made to determine and locate the owner or owners thereof, his or their heirs or next of kin, or his or their legal representative or representatives, and that in all cases where the owner or owners thereof, or his or their legal representative or representatives, his or their heirs or next of kin, has or have been determined, the property shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of prior to the expiration of a period of one hundred and twenty days after written notice by registered mail giving time and place of intended sale or other disposition thereof has been sent to his or their last-known address.

SEC. 2. The net proceeds received from the sale of any such property by the Treasury Department, the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, or the Department of the Air Force shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 3. Claims for the net proceeds, if any, of such property so disposed of may be filed with the General Accounting Office by the rightful owners, their heirs or next of kin, or their legal representatives at any time prior to the expiration of five years from the date of the disposal of the property and, if so filed, the General Accounting Office shall allow or disallow the claim. If claims are not filed prior to the expiration of five years from the date of the disposal of the property, they shall be barred from being acted on by the Courts or the General Accounting Office.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Air Force, respectively, are authorized to prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. Any property coming within the provisions of this Act which may be delivered to the Soldiers' Home under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of the Air Force shall be limited to papers of value, sabers, insignia, decorations, medals, watches, trinkets, manuscripts, or other articles valuable chiefly as keepsakes: *Provided*, That if the rightful owners, their heirs, next of kin, or their legal representatives should establish their right to any such property at any time prior to the expiration of two years from the date of the receipt thereof by the Soldiers' Home, they shall be granted possession thereof.

SEC. 6. This Act shall not be construed as amending or repealing the Act of March 29, 1918 (40 Stat. 499); article 112 of section 1, chapter II, of the Act of June 4, 1920 (41 Stat. 809); the Act of February 21, 1931 (46 Stat. 1203); the Act of December 28, 1945 (59 Stat. 662), as amended; or the Act of August 2, 1946 (60 Stat. 846-847), as amended.

Approved April 14, 1949.

*Infra.*

Sale of property.

Net proceeds.

Filing of claims.

Rules and regulations.

Certain property to  
Soldiers' Home.

Return to rightful  
owners.

34 U. S. C. § 942.

10 U. S. C. § 1584.

10 U. S. C. §§ 1584a-  
1584e.

31 U. S. C. §§ 222e-

222h, 215-217 notes.

*Post*, p. 565.

28 U. S. C. §§ 921

note, 946.

[CHAPTER 51]

AN ACT

To provide for a Commission on Renovation of the Executive Mansion.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That there is hereby

April 14, 1949  
[H. R. 3856]

[Public Law 40]

Commission on Renovation of the Executive Mansion.

**Duties.**

established a commission to be known as the Commission on Renovation of the Executive Mansion (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission"). It shall be the duty of the Commission (a) to supervise and approve all construction plans and work necessary (1) for remedying the unsafe conditions now existing in the Executive Mansion and (2) for the modernization of such Mansion, in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this Act and within the limits of funds appropriated by the Congress for those purposes; and (b) to perform the functions vested in the Commission by sections 2 and 4 of this Act.

**Infra.****Composition.**

SEC. 2. (a) The Commission shall be composed of six members as follows:

(1) Two Senators appointed by the President of the Senate;  
 (2) Two Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(3) Two persons appointed by the President of the United States from the executive branch or from private life.

(b) A vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(c) The Commission shall elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from among its members.

(d) Commission members appointed from the Congress and the executive branch shall serve without additional compensation. Commission members appointed from private life shall receive \$50 per diem when engaged in the performance of Commission duties. All Commission members shall receive reimbursement for necessary traveling and subsistence expenses incurred by them in the performance of Commission duties.

(e) The Commission is authorized to accept and utilize services of voluntary and uncompensated personnel and to pay any such personnel necessary traveling and subsistence expenses when engaged in the work of the Commission.

(f) Within the limits of its appropriations, the Commission is authorized to appoint such personnel, without regard to the civil-service laws and the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, to procure such printing and binding, and to make such expenditures as, in its discretion, it deems necessary.

(g) The Commission is authorized to request and secure the advice or assistance of any Federal agency. Any Federal agency furnishing advice or assistance to the Commission may expend its own funds for this purpose, with or without reimbursement from the Commission as may be agreed upon between the Commission and the agency.

(h) The Commission shall from time to time, but at least once annually, submit to the Congress and the President a report on the progress of the work under its supervision. Upon the conclusion of its work, the Commission shall promptly submit a final report.

(i) Thirty days after the submission of its final report the Commission shall cease to exist.

SEC. 3. In the performance of its duties the Commission shall—

(a) approve all construction plans for the renovation and modernization of the Executive Mansion;

(b) determine the methods for selecting, and approve the selection of, the general contractor and the subcontractors who will perform the construction work, subject to such conditions and limitations as may be contained in appropriations made for such work;

(c) generally supervise the progress of such construction work.

SEC. 4. (a) The Commission shall take measures to assure that all lumber, fixtures, and other materials removed from the Executive

42 Stat. 1488.  
 5 U. S. C. §§ 661-674;  
 Supp. II, § 662 *et seq.*  
*Post*, p. 972.

Assistance of Federal agency.

**Report.****Termination.**

Approval of construction plans and contractors.

Preservation of historical materials.

Mansion in the course of its renovation and modernization shall be carefully examined by appropriate Federal or other authorities for the purpose of segregating and safeguarding any of such materials which are of such historical importance that they should be permanently preserved.

(b) At the earliest possible date, the Commission shall recommend to the Congress and the President a plan for (1) the preservation of any of such material which is of permanent historical importance, and (2) the sale, donation, destruction, or other disposition of the remainder of such material in the manner most consistent with its symbolical value and without commercial exploitation.

SEC. 5. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for the expenses of the Commission.

Approved April 14, 1949.

Recommendations.  
Post, p. 890.

Appropriation authorized.  
Post, pp. 235, 740, 976.

[CHAPTER 52]

AN ACT

To prevent retroactive checkage of payments erroneously made to certain retired officers of the Naval Reserve, and for other purposes.

April 14, 1949  
[S. 278]  
[Public Law 41]

Naval and Marine Corps Reserve.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the term "Reserve components" as used in section 6 of the Act approved February 21, 1946 (60 Stat. 27; 34 U. S. C. 410b), shall include officers on the honorary retired list of the Naval Reserve or Marine Corps Reserve established by section 309 of the Naval Reserve Act of 1938, as amended (34 U. S. C. 855h), and that the term "Naval and Marine Corps Reserve" as used in subsection (b) of section 301 of Public Law 810 shall include officers and enlisted personnel on the honorary retired list of the Naval Reserve or Marine Corps Reserve established by section 309 of the Naval Reserve Act of 1938, as amended (34 U. S. C. 855h).*

SEC. 2. This Act shall be effective from February 21, 1946.

Approved April 14, 1949.

52 Stat. 1183.  
34 U. S. C., Supp.  
II, § 855h.  
62 Stat. 1087.  
34 U. S. C., Supp.  
II, § 440h.  
52 Stat. 1183.  
34 U. S. C., Supp.  
II, § 855h.  
Effective date.

[CHAPTER 57]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing appropriations to the Federal Security Administrator in addition to those authorized under title V, part 2, of the Social Security Act, as amended, to provide for meeting emergency needs of crippled children during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949.

April 15, 1949  
[H. J. Res. 212]  
[Public Law 42]

Crippled children.  
Appropriation authorized.  
Post, p. 234.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to enable the States to provide necessary services and care for additional numbers of crippled children, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949, the sum of \$1,500,000 for payments to States having plans approved under title V, part 2, of the Social Security Act, in addition to the amounts provided in part 2 of such title.*

SEC. 2. The Federal Security Administrator shall allot one-half the sum appropriated pursuant to section 1 hereof in the same manner as is provided for allotments under section 512 (a) of the Social Security Act (except that there shall be no uniform initial allotment), and one-half in the same manner as is provided for allotments under section 512 (b) of that Act. Amounts allotted to the States pursuant to this section shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of

49 Stat. 631.  
42 U. S. C. §§ 711-715.

Allotments of funds.

49 Stat. 631.  
42 U. S. C. § 712 (a).

49 Stat. 631.  
42 U. S. C. § 712 (b).