

Public Law 82

CHAPTER 238

AN ACT

July 23, 1951
[H. R. 3804]

To limit the retroactive application of the income tax to employees of the United States working in the possessions or in the Canal Zone.

64 Stat. 944.
26 U. S. C. § 251.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 220 of the Revenue Act of 1950 is amended by striking out "effective with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1949" and inserting in lieu thereof "effective with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1950".

Approved July 23, 1951.

Public Law 83

CHAPTER 241

AN ACT

July 27, 1951
[S. 260]

To make cancer and all malignant neoplastic diseases reportable to the Director of Public Health of the District of Columbia.

Malignant growths.
Report to Director
of Public Health,
D. C.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized to promulgate regulations requiring that cancer, sarcoma, lymphoma (including Hodgkin's disease), leukemia, and all other malignant growths be reported to the Director of Public Health of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. The reports of cases made pursuant to the provisions of regulations promulgated under this Act shall be confidential and not open to public inspection. The information in such reports shall not be divulged or made public so as to disclose the identity of any person to whom they may relate, except upon order of court, and unless already published shall be divulged or made public only on the written authorization of the Director of Public Health.

SEC. 3. Nothing in this Act, or regulations promulgated thereunder, shall be construed to compel any person suffering from any of the diseases listed in section 1 to submit to medical examination or treatment.

Penalty.

SEC. 4. The said Commissioners are authorized to prescribe a reasonable penalty or fine, not to exceed \$100, for the violation of any regulation promulgated under the authority of this Act, and all prosecutions for violations of such regulations shall be in the criminal branch of the municipal court for the District of Columbia in the name of the District of Columbia upon information filed by the Corporation Counsel of the District of Columbia or any of his assistants.

Approved July 27, 1951.

Public Law 84

CHAPTER 246

AN ACT

July 30, 1951
[S. 259]

To fix the responsibilities of the Disbursing Officer and of the Auditor of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

D. C. Disbursing
Officer and Auditor.
Responsibilities.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, not withstand-

ing any other provision of law, order, or regulation, the Disbursing Officer of the District of Columbia shall (1) disburse moneys only upon, and in strict accordance with, vouchers duly certified by the Auditor of the District of Columbia or by one or more employees in the office of such Auditor duly authorized in writing by such Auditor to certify such vouchers; (2) make such examination of vouchers as may be necessary to ascertain whether they are in proper form and duly certified; and (3) be held accountable accordingly.

SEC. 2. The Auditor of the District of Columbia or any employee in his office duly authorized in writing by such Auditor who certifies a voucher shall (1) be held responsible for the existence and correctness of the facts recorded in the certificate or otherwise stated in the voucher or its supporting papers, including the correctness of computations on such voucher, and for the legality of the proposed payment under the appropriation or fund involved; (2) be required to give bond to the United States and to the District of Columbia, with good and sufficient surety, approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, in such amount as may be determined by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia; and (3) be held responsible for and required to make good to the United States or to the District of Columbia the amount of any illegal, improper, or incorrect payment resulting from any false, erroneous, or misleading certification made by him as well as for any payment prohibited by law or which did not represent a legal obligation under the appropriation or fund involved: *Provided*, That the Comptroller General may, in his discretion, relieve such certifying officer or employee of liability for any payment otherwise proper whenever he finds (1) that the certification was based on official records and that such certifying officer or employee did not know, and by reasonable diligence and inquiry could not have ascertained, the actual facts, or (2) that the obligation was incurred in good faith, that the payment was not contrary to any statutory provision specifically prohibiting payments of the character involved, and that the United States or the District of Columbia has received value for such payment: *Provided further*, That the bond required by this section to be given by the Auditor of the District of Columbia shall be conditioned for the faithful discharge of all of the duties of his office and shall be in lieu of any other bond now required by law.

Relief from liability
by Comptroller Gen-
eral.

SEC. 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of this or any other Act to the contrary, neither the Disbursing Officer of the District of Columbia nor the Auditor of the District of Columbia or any employee in his office authorized by him to certify vouchers, pursuant to the provisions of this Act, shall be held liable for overpayments made for transportation furnished on Government bills of lading or transportation requests when said overpayments are due to the use of improper transportation rates, classifications, or the failure to deduct the proper amount under land-grant laws or equalization and other agreements.

Nonliability for
overpayments for
transportation.

SEC. 4. The liability of any person who certifies any voucher pursuant to the provisions of this Act shall be enforced in the same manner and to the same extent as now provided by law with respect to enforcement of the liability of disbursing and other accountable officers; and they shall have the right to apply for and obtain a decision by the Comptroller General on any question of law involved in a payment on any vouchers presented to them for verification.

Enforcement of
liability.

SEC. 5. This Act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following the date of its enactment.

Effective date.

Approved July 30, 1951.