powerplant may be constructed with a capacity of sixteen thousand kilowatts. The Secretary is further authorized to undertake the rehabilitation of works of the Medford and Rogue River Valley Irrigation Districts as under the provisions of the Act of October 7, 1949 (63 Stat. 724), as amended. 43 USC 504.

SEC. 2. (a) In constructing, operating, and maintaining the Talent division, the Secretary shall be governed by the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902; 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto) except as is otherwise provided in this Act. Laws governing. 43 USC 371 note.

(b) Any contract entered into under section 9, subsection (d), of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (53 Stat. 1187, 1193; 43 U. S. C., 1946 ed., sec. 485h), for payment of those portions of the costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Talent division which are properly allocable to irrigation and which are assigned to be paid by the contracting organization shall provide for the repayment of the portion of the construction cost of the division assigned to any contract unit or, if the contract unit be divided into two or more blocks, to any such block over a period of not more than sixty years, exclusive of any permissible development period, or as near thereto as is consistent with the adoption and operation of a variable payment formula which, being based on full repayment within the period stated under average conditions, permits variance in the required annual payments in the light of economic factors pertinent of the ability of the organization to pay. Contract payments.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, all net revenues derived from the sale of commercial power from the Talent division shall be applied, first, to the amortization of that portion of the cost of constructing the division which is allocated to commercial power with interest on the unamortized balance thereof at the average rate (which rate shall be certified by the Secretary of the Treasury) paid by the United States on its marketable long-term securities outstanding on the date of this Act and, thereafter, to the amortization of that portion of the cost of constructing the division which is allocated to irrigation but which is beyond the ability of the contracting irrigation organization to repay as provided above. Contracts for the disposition of power from the Talent division shall be entered into with the financial objective of returning the power allocation with interest plus as much of the irrigation allocation as is beyond the ability of the water users to repay, all as hereinbefore provided, within a period of not more than sixty years. Commercial power sales. Use of revenue.

SEC. 3. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for construction of the Talent division and for the rehabilitation work authorized to be undertaken by section 1 of this Act, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $22,900,000 plus such amounts, if any, as may be required by reason of changes in construction costs as indicated by engineering cost indexes applicable to the type of construction involved therein. Appropriation.

Approved August 20, 1954.

Public Law 607 CHAPTER 776

AN ACT

August 20, 1954
[H. R. 8921]

To establish the rate of compensation for the position of the General Counsel of the Department of Commerce.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That that portion of the Act of March 18, 1904, relating to the Office of the General Counsel Commerce Department. General Counsel.

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of the Department of Commerce (33 Stat. 85, 135), as amended and supplemented by the Act of March 4, 1913 (37 Stat. 736), by Public Law 584, Eighty-second Congress (66 Stat. 758), and by section 7 of Executive Order 6166 of June 10, 1933, be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

5 USC 592b.

"There shall be in the Department of Commerce a General Counsel, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall have basic compensation at the rate per annum provided for Assistant Secretaries."

Approved August 20, 1954.

Public Law 608 CHAPTER 777

August 20, 1954
[S. 3546]

AN ACT

To provide an immediate program for the modernization and improvement of such merchant-type vessels in the reserve fleet as are necessary for national defense.

Emergency Ship Repair Act of 1954.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Emergency Ship Repair Act of 1954".

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

SEC. 2. It is the purpose of this Act in the interests of national defense to provide for the immediate improvement and modernization of needed merchant-type vessels in the reserve fleet under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Commerce, and thereby to provide a much needed stimulus to the shipbuilding and ship repair industries of the Nation.

RESERVE FLEET MODERNIZATION AND REPAIR PROGRAM

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Commerce shall, after consulting the Secretary of Defense, formulate and carry out to the extent authorized under the provisions of this Act a program of repairing, modernizing, or converting such merchant-type vessels in the national defense reserve under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Commerce as may be necessary to provide for the purpose of national defense an adequate and ready reserve fleet of merchant and auxiliary vessels.

CONTRACTING AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Commerce shall, within twenty-four months after the date of the enactment of this Act, enter into such contracts for the repair, modernization, and conversion of vessels as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. Such contracts (1) may provide for the expenditure by the United States of not more than $25,000,000, (2) shall be with private shipbuilding or ship repair yards on the Atlantic, Pacific, and gulf coasts of the United States, (3) shall be entered into in accordance with applicable provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949. In entering into such contracts the Secretary of Commerce shall not alter the present Maritime Administration policy of inviting single bids or split bids or both for drydock and nondrydock work.

63 Stat. 377.
40 USC 471 note.