(b) Section 4(3) of such Act (73 Stat. 711; 5 U.S.C. 3003(3)) is amended by striking out ", and which on July 1, 1959, provided health benefits to members of the organization".

Approved July 8, 1963.

Public Law 88-60

AN ACT

July 8, 1963
[H. R. 3537]

To increase the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court for the District of Columbia in civil actions, to change the names of the court, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the court established by the first section of the Act entitled "An Act to consolidate the Police Court of the District of Columbia and the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia, to be known as 'the Municipal Court for the District of Columbia', to create 'the Municipal Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia', and for other purposes", approved April 1, 1942, as amended (56 Stat. 190; D.C. Code, sec. 11–751), hereafter shall be known as the "District of Columbia Court of General Sessions". Whenever reference is made in any Act of Congress (other than this Act or the amendments made by this Act) or in any regulation to the Municipal Court for the District of Columbia, such reference shall be held to be a reference to the District of Columbia Court of General Sessions.

District of Columbia Court of General Sessions. Designation.

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 4 of such Act, approved April 1, 1942, as amended (D.C. Code, sec. 11–755 (a)), is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The District of Columbia Court of General Sessions, as established by this Act, shall consist of the criminal, civil, and small claims and conciliation, and domestic relations branches. The court and each judge thereof shall have and exercise the same powers and jurisdiction as were heretofore had or exercised by the Municipal Court for the District of Columbia or the judges thereof on the day before the effective date of this amendatory subsection, and in addition the said court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of civil actions commenced after the effective date of this amendatory subsection, including such actions against executors, administrators and other fiduciaries, in which the claimed value of personal property or the debt or damages claimed, does not exceed the sum of $10,000 exclusive of interest and costs, and, in addition, shall have jurisdiction of all cross-claims and counterclaims interposed in all actions over which it has jurisdiction regardless of the amount involved: *Provided, however*, That nothing herein shall deprive the United States District Court for the District of Columbia of jurisdiction over counterclaims, cross-claims, or any other claims whether or not arising out of the same transaction or occurrence and interposed in actions over which the United States District Court for the District of Columbia has jurisdiction. The District of Columbia Court of General Sessions shall also have jurisdiction over all cases properly pending in the Municipal Court for the District of Columbia on the effective date of this amendatory subsection."

Powers and jurisdiction.

SEC. 3. Subsection (a) of section 5 of such Act approved April 1, 1942, as amended (D.C. Code, sec. 11–756(a)), is amended to read as follows:

Transfer of actions.

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"(a) If, in any action, other than an action for equitable relief, pending on the effective date of this amendatory subsection or thereafter commenced in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, it shall appear to the satisfaction of the court at or subsequent to any pretrial hearing but prior to trial thereof that the action will not justify a judgment in excess of $10,000, the court may certify such action to the District of Columbia Court of General Sessions for trial. The pleadings in such action, together with a copy of the docket entries and of any orders theretofore entered therein, shall be sent to the clerk of the said Court of General Sessions, together with any deposit for costs, and the case shall be called for trial in that court promptly thereafter; and shall thereafter be treated as though it had been filed originally in the said Court of General Sessions, except that the jurisdiction of that court shall extend to the amount claimed in such action, even though it exceed the sum of $10,000."

Witnesses, attendance.

SEC. 4. Subsection (c) of section 5 of such Act approved April 1, 1942, as amended (D.C. Code, sec. 11–756(c)), is amended to read as follows:

"(c) The District of Columbia Court of General Sessions shall have the power to compel the attendance of witnesses by attachment and any judge thereof shall have the power in any case or proceeding whether civil or criminal to punish for disobedience of any order, or contempt committed in the presence of the court by a fine not exceeding $50 or imprisonment not exceeding thirty days. At the request of any party subpenas for attendance at a hearing or trial in the District of Columbia Court of General Sessions shall be issued by the clerk of the said court. A subpena may be served at any place within the District of Columbia, or at any place without the District of Columbia that is within twenty-five miles of the place of the hearing or trial specified in the subpena. The form, issuance and manner of service of a subpena shall be as otherwise prescribed by Rule 45 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure."

28 USC app.

SEC. 5. (a) Section 1114 of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a code of law for the District of Columbia", approved March 3, 1901 (31 Stat. 1189; D.C. Code, sec. 11–1520), is hereby repealed.

31 Stat. 1367.

Witness fees.

(b) The paragraph relating to witness fees under the heading "District of Columbia" in the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and two, and for prior years, and for other purposes", approved July 1, 1902 (32 Stat. 552, 561; D.C. Code, sec. 11–1520a), is amended by striking "cases in the police court of the District of Columbia" and inserting in lieu thereof "criminal cases in the District of Columbia Court of General Sessions".

(c) The fees and travel allowances to be paid any witness compelled by subpena to attend any branch of the District of Columbia Court of General Sessions other than the criminal branch shall be the same amount as paid a witness compelled to attend before the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Designation.

SEC. 6. The court established by section 6 of the Act of April 1, 1942 (56 Stat. 190; D.C. Code, sec. 11–771), hereafter shall be known as the "District of Columbia Court of Appeals". Wherever reference is made in any Act of Congress (other than this Act) or in any regulation to the Municipal Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, such reference shall be held to be a reference to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

Effective date.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect as of January 1, 1963.

Approved July 8, 1963.