

Public Law 94-22
94th Congress

An Act

May 19, 1975

[S. 172]

Travel Expense
Amendments Act
of 1975.
5 USC 5701 note.

To revise certain provisions of title 5, United States Code, relating to per diem and mileage expenses of Government employees, and for other purposes.

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 "Travel Expense Amendments Act of 1975".

SEC. 2. (a) Section 5701(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(2) 'employee' means an individual employed in or under an agency including an individual employed intermittently in the Government service as an expert or consultant and paid on a daily when-actually-employed basis and an individual serving without pay or at \$1 a year;"

(b) Section 5705 of such title 5 is amended by striking out "or individual" wherever it appears.

SEC. 3. Section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 5702. Per diem ; employee traveling on official business

"(a) Under regulations prescribed under section 5707 of this title, an employee while traveling on official business away from his designated post of duty, or in the case of an individual described under section 5703 of this title, his home or regular place of business, is entitled to (1) a per diem allowance for travel inside the continental United States at a rate not to exceed \$35, and (2) a per diem allowance for travel outside the continental United States, that may not exceed the rate established by the President, or his designee, for each locality where travel is to be performed. For travel consuming less than a full day, such rate may be allocated proportionately.

"(b) Under regulations prescribed under section 5707 of this title, an employee who, while traveling on official business away from his designated post of duty or, in the case of an individual described under section 5703 of this title, his home or regular place of business, becomes incapacitated by illness or injury not due to his own misconduct, is entitled to the per diem allowance and appropriate transportation expenses to his designated post of duty, or home or regular place of business, as the case may be.

"(c) Under regulations prescribed under section 5707 of this title, the Administrator of General Services, or his designee, may prescribe conditions under which an employee may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses of official travel when the maximum per diem allowance would be less than these expenses, except that such reimbursement shall not exceed \$50 for each day in a travel status within the continental United States when the per diem otherwise allowable is determined to be inadequate (A) due to the unusual circumstances of the travel assignment, or (B) for travel to high rate geographical areas designated as such in regulations prescribed under section 5707 of this title.

"(d) Under regulations prescribed under section 5707 of this title, for travel outside the continental United States, the Administrator of General Services or his designee, may prescribe conditions under which an employee may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses of official travel when the per diem allowance would be less than these expenses, except that such reimbursement shall not exceed \$21 for each day in a travel status outside the continental United States plus the locality per diem rate prescribed for such travel.

"(e) This section does not apply to a justice or judge, except to the extent provided by section 456 of title 28."

Post, p. 85.

Post, p. 85.

SEC. 4. Section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 5703. Per diem, travel, and transportation expenses; experts and consultants; individuals serving without pay

“An employee serving intermittently in the Government service as an expert or consultant and paid on a daily when-actually-employed basis, or serving without pay or at \$1 a year, may be allowed travel or transportation expenses, under this subchapter, while away from his home or regular place of business and at the place of employment or service.”

SEC. 5. Section 5704 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 5704. Mileage and related allowances

“(a) Under regulations prescribed under section 5707 of this title, an employee who is engaged on official business for the Government is entitled to not in excess of—

- “(1) 11 cents a mile for the use of a privately owned motorcycle;
- “(2) 20 cents a mile for the use of a privately owned automobile; or
- “(3) 24 cents a mile for the use of a privately owned airplane; instead of actual expenses of transportation when that mode of transportation is authorized or approved as more advantageous to the Government. A determination of such advantage is not required when payment on a mileage basis is limited to the cost of travel by common carrier including per diem. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this subsection, in any case in which an employee who is engaged on official business for the Government chooses to use a privately owned vehicle in lieu of a Government vehicle, payment on a mileage basis is limited to the cost of travel by a Government vehicle.

“(b) In addition to the mileage allowance authorized under subsection (a) of this section, the employee may be reimbursed for—

- “(1) parking fees;
- “(2) ferry fees;
- “(3) bridge, road, and tunnel costs; and
- “(4) airplane landing and tie-down fees.”

SEC. 6. (a) Section 5707 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 5707. Regulations and reports

“(a) The Administrator of General Services shall prescribe regulations necessary for the administration of this subchapter, except that the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall prescribe such regulations with respect to official travel by employees of the judicial branch of the Government.

“(b) (1) The Administrator of General Services, in consultation with the Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Defense, and representatives of organizations of employees of the Government, shall conduct periodic investigations of the cost of travel and the operation of privately owned vehicles to employees while engaged on official business, and shall report the results of such investigations to Congress at least once a year. In conducting the investigations, the Administrator shall review and analyze among other factors—

- “(A) depreciation of original vehicle cost;
- “(B) gasoline and oil (excluding taxes);
- “(C) maintenance, accessories, parts, and tires;
- “(D) insurance; and
- “(E) State and Federal taxes.

Infra.

Investigations;
report to
Congress.

Regulations.

Ante, p. 85.Report to
Congress.
Publication in
Federal Register.

5 USC 5707 note.

"(2) The Administrator shall issue regulations under this section which shall prescribe mileage allowances which shall not exceed the amounts set forth in section 5704 (a) of this title and which reflect the current costs, as determined by the Administrator, of operating privately owned motorcycles, automobiles, and airplanes. At least once each year after the issuance of the regulations described in the preceding sentence, the Administrator shall determine, based upon the results of his investigation, specific figures, each rounded to the nearest one-half cent, of the average, actual cost a mile during the period for the use of a privately owned motorcycle, automobile, and airplane. The Administrator shall report such figures to Congress not later than five working days after he makes his determination. Each such report shall be printed in the Federal Register. The mileage allowances contained in regulations prescribed under this section shall be adjusted within thirty days following the submission of that report to the figures so determined and reported by the Administrator."

(b) The regulations required under the first sentence of section 5707(b)(2) of title 5, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, shall be issued no later than thirty days after the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 7. Item 5707 contained in the analysis of subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"5707. Regulations and reports."

SEC. 8. The seventh paragraph under the heading "ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS" in the Senate appropriation in the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1957 (2 U.S.C. 68b), is amended by striking out "\$25" and "\$40" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$35" and "\$50", respectively.

Approved May 19, 1975.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 94-5 accompanying H.R. 2302 and No. 94-104 accompanying H.R. 4834 (both from Comm. on Government Operations).

SENATE REPORT No. 94-42 (Comm. on Government Operations).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):

Mar. 20, considered and passed Senate.

Apr. 21, considered and passed House, amended, in lieu of H.R. 4834.

Apr. 30, Senate concurred in House amendment with an amendment.

May 5, House concurred in Senate amendment.