Public Law 101-396
101st Congress

An Act

Sept. 28, 1990
[H.R. 3265]

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide authorization of appropriations for the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes.

Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1990.
47 USC 609 note.

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 "Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1990".

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 2. (a) Section 6 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 156) is amended to read as follows:

"AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

"SEC. 6. (a) There are authorized to be appropriated for the administration of this Act by the Commission $109,831,000 for fiscal year 1990 and $119,831,000 for fiscal year 1991, together with such sums as may be necessary for increases resulting from adjustments in salary, pay, retirement, other employee benefits required by law, and other nondiscretionary costs, for each of the fiscal years 1990 and 1991.

"(b) In addition to the amounts authorized to be appropriated under this section, not more than 4 percent of the amount of any fees or other charges payable to the United States which are collected by the Commission during fiscal year 1990 are authorized to be made available to the Commission until expended to defray the fully distributed costs of such fees collection.

Maryland.

"(c) Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) for fiscal year 1991, such sums as may be necessary not to exceed $2,000,000 shall be expended for upgrading and modernizing equipment at the Commission's electronic emissions test laboratory located in Laurel, Maryland.".

COMMERCIAL RADIO OPERATOR EXAMINATIONS

SEC. 3. Section 4(f) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 154(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5)(A) The Commission, for purposes of preparing and administering any examination for a commercial radio operator license or endorsement, may accept and employ the services of persons that the Commission determines to be qualified. Any person so employed may not receive compensation for such services, but may recover from examinees such fees as the Commission permits, considering such factors as public service and cost estimates submitted by such person.

"(B) The Commission may prescribe regulations to select, oversee, sanction, and dismiss any person authorized under this paragraph to be employed by the Commission.

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"(C) Any person who provides services under this paragraph or who provides goods in connection with such services shall not, by reason of having provided such service or goods, be considered a Federal or special government employee.".

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

SEC. 4. Section 4(g)(2)(D) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 154(g)(2)(D)) is amended by striking "1989" and inserting in lieu thereof "1992".

COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT FROM OLDER AMERICANS

SEC. 5. Section 6(a) of the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1988 (47 U.S.C. 154 note) is amended by striking "and 1989" and inserting in lieu thereof ", 1989, 1990, and 1991".

HAWAII MONITORING STATION

Real property.

SEC. 6. (a) Section 9(a) of the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-594; 102 Stat. 3024) is amended—

(1) by striking "and 1990" and inserting in lieu thereof ", 1990, 1991, and 1992";

(2) in paragraph (4) by striking "a facility at the new location" and inserting in lieu thereof "facilities at new locations"; and

(3) in paragraph (6) by striking "a facility at a new location" and inserting in lieu thereof "facilities at new locations".

(b) Subsection (b) of section 9 of the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-594; 102 Stat. 3024) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) The Administrator of General Services is authorized to dispose of, only to the State of Hawaii, as much of the real property (including improvements thereon) at the present location of the Hawaii Monitoring Station as is necessary for the purposes of relocating, at a minimum, the antennas associated with the Monitoring Station.".

(c) Section 9 of the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-594; 102 Stat. 3024) is amended by striking subsections (c) and (d), by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (i), and by inserting immediately after subsection (b) the following new subsections:

"(c) Pursuant to the authority provided in subsection (b), the Administrator of General Services shall sell and convey to the State of Hawaii the real property and improvements thereon described in subsection (b) on an expedited basis, including provisions for leaseback as required.

Government contracts.

"(d) In consideration of such sale, the State of Hawaii shall agree to—

"(1) pay to the General Services Administration an amount not less than the fair market value, as determined by the Administrator of General Services, of the property to be conveyed under subsection (c), or

"(2) convey to the Federal Communications Commission real property that would be suitable, as determined by the Commission, for the relocation of the Hawaii Monitoring Station and, in addition, pay to the General Services Administration an

amount equal to the difference between the fair market value of the two properties, as determined by the Administrator of General Services, if the Federal property conveyed is of greater value.

"(e) The General Services Administration shall reimburse the Federal Communications Commission from the net proceeds of such sale for all of the expenditures of the Commission associated with the relocation of the Hawaii Monitoring Station. Any such reimbursed funds received by the Commission shall remain available until expended.

"(f) The net proceeds of such sale, less any funds reimbursed to the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to subsection (e), and less normal and reasonable charges by the General Services Administration for costs associated with such sale, shall be deposited in the general funds of the Treasury.

"(g) If the General Services Administration and the State of Hawaii are unable to execute a contract for sale as required by this section or complete any other transaction necessary to carry out such sale, the Administrator of General Services shall not proceed to public sale of the property described in subsection (b).

"(h) The Hawaii Monitoring Station shall continue its full operations at its present location until new facilities have been built and are fully operational.".

(d) Subsection (i) of section 9 of the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-594; 102 Stat. 3024), as so redesignated by subsection (c) of this section, is amended by striking ", in fiscal years 1989 and 1990".

TARIFF NOTICE PERIOD

SEC. 7. (a) Section 203(b)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 203(b)(1)) is amended by striking "ninety days notice" and inserting in lieu thereof "one hundred and twenty days notice".

(b) Section 203(b)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 203(b)(2)) is amended by striking "ninety days" and inserting in lieu thereof "one hundred and twenty days".

AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE RECIPROCAL PERMITS

SEC. 8. (a) Section 303(l)(3) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 303(l)(3)) is amended by striking "bilateral agreement between the United States and the alien's government" and inserting in lieu thereof "multilateral or bilateral agreement, to which the United States and the alien's government are parties,".

(b) Section 310(c) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 310(c)) is amended by striking "bilateral agreement between the United States and the alien's government" and inserting in lieu thereof "multilateral or bilateral agreement, to which the United States and the alien's government are parties,".

WILLFUL OR MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE

SEC. 9. Part I of title III of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"WILLFUL OR MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE

"SEC. 333. No person shall willfully or maliciously interfere with or cause interference to any radio communications of any station licensed or authorized by or under this Act or operated by the United States Government.". 47 USC 333.

APPLICABILITY OF FORFEITURES TO APPLICANTS

SEC. 10. The first sentence of section 503(b)(5) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 503(b)(5)) is amended by inserting "and if such person is not an applicant for a license, permit, certificate, or other authorization issued by the Commission," immediately before "unless, prior".

Approved September 28, 1990.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 3265 (S. 1022):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 101-316 (Comm. on Energy and Commerce).
SENATE REPORTS: No. 101-215 accompanying S. 1022 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 135 (1989): Oct. 30, considered and passed House.
Vol. 136 (1990): July 19, considered and passed Senate, amended, in lieu of S. 1022.
Sept. 13, House concurred in Senate amendment.