

[CHAPTER 703]

AN ACT

To authorize the Legislature of Puerto Rico to create public corporate authorities to undertake slum clearance and projects, to provide dwelling accommodations for families of low income, and to issue bonds therefor; to authorize the legislature to provide for financial assistance to such authorities by the government of Puerto Rico and its municipalities, 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 Legislature of Puerto Rico may create public corporate authorities to undertake slum clearance and projects to provide dwelling accommodations for families of low income.

SEC. 2. The Legislature of Puerto Rico may provide for the appointment and terms of the commissioners of such authorities, and for the powers of such authorities, except that such authorities shall be given no power of taxation, and may authorize the commissioners of such authorities to fix the salaries of employees.

SEC. 3. The legislature may appropriate funds for and may make and authorize any municipality of Puerto Rico to make loans, donations, and conveyances of money or property to such authorities; may make and authorize any municipality of Puerto Rico to make available its facilities and services to such authorities and take other action in aid of slum clearance or low-rent housing; and may, without regard to any Federal Acts restricting the disposition of public property or lands in Puerto Rico, provide for the use by or disposal to such authorities of any public lands or other property held or controlled by the people of Puerto Rico, its municipalities, or other subdivisions.

SEC. 4. The legislature may authorize such authorities to issue bonds or other obligations with such security as the legislature may provide and may provide for the disposition of the proceeds of such bonds and all receipts and revenues of such authorities.

SEC. 5. Such bonds shall not be a debt of Puerto Rico or any municipality, and shall not constitute a public indebtedness within the meaning of section 3 of the Act of Congress approved March 2, 1917, entitled "An Act to provide a civil government for Porto Rico, and for other purposes", as amended.

SEC. 6. All legislation heretofore enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico dealing with the subject matter of this Act and not inconsistent herewith is hereby ratified and confirmed.

Approved, June 25, 1938.

June 25, 1938

[S. 3929]

[Public, No. 745]

Puerto Rico.
Slum clearance and
housing projects.

Commissioners of
authorities, and pow-
ers of authorities.

Appropriations,
loans, etc., authorized.

Use and disposal of
public lands.

Bonds.

Not to constitute a
public indebtedness.
39 Stat. 953.
48 U. S. C. §§ 741,
741a, 745; Supp. III,
§§ 741, 741a, 745.

Confirmation of
legislation heretofore
enacted.

[CHAPTER 704]

AN ACT

Authorizing advancements from the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works for the construction of certain municipal buildings in the District of Columbia, 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 Commissioners of the District of Columbia are hereby authorized to accept advancements for the District of Columbia from the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works, created by the National Industrial Recovery Act, and said Administration with the approval of the President is authorized to advance to said Commissioners the sum of \$18,150,000, or any part thereof, in addition to any sums heretofore advanced to the District of Columbia by said Administration, out of funds authorized by law for said Administration, for the acquisition, purchase, construction, establishment, and develop-

June 25, 1938

[S. 4024]

[Public, No. 746]

District of Colum-
bia.

Acceptance of ad-
vances from the Fed-
eral Emergency Ad-
ministration of Public
Works authorized.
48 Stat. 200.

Projects enumerated.

Locations.

Ante, p. 816.

Availability of funds for acquisition of lands, easements, etc.

Preparation of plans.
Professional services.
R. S. § 3709.
41 U. S. C. § 5.

Condemnation, etc., proceedings.

Repayment of advances; annual installments.

Provisos.
Inclusion in annual estimates.

Reimbursement of obligation under former Act.
46 Stat. 485.

Report of activities and expenditures.

Limitation on further borrowing.

48 Stat. 1215; 49 Stat. 174.

ment of public works, including among others a building or buildings for the municipal court, the recorder of deeds, and the juvenile court, or any of them, said buildings to be located on such portions or parts of Judiciary Square, or the area bounded by Fourth and Fifth Streets, D and G Streets, Northwest, or upon such other area or areas as shall be approved by said Commissioners and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the making of such advances is hereby included among the purposes for which funds heretofore appropriated or authorized for said Administration, including funds appropriated by the Public Works Administration Appropriation Act of 1938, may be used, in addition to the other purposes specified in the respective Acts appropriating or authorizing said funds.

SEC. 2. The sum authorized by section 1 hereof, or any part thereof shall, when advanced, be available to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for the acquisition by dedication, purchase, or condemnation of the fee-simple title to land, or rights or easements in land, for the public uses authorized by this Act, and for the preparation of plans, designs, estimates, models, and specifications; and for architectural and other necessary professional services without reference to the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, and section 3709 of the Revised Statutes; for the construction of buildings, including materials and labor, heating, lighting, elevators, plumbing, landscaping, and all other appurtenances, and the purchase and installation of machinery, furniture, equipment, apparatus, and any and all other expenditures necessary for or incident to the complete construction and equipment for use of the aforesaid buildings and plants. All contracts, agreements, and proceedings in court for condemnation or otherwise, pursuant to this Act shall be had and made in accordance with existing provisions of law except as otherwise herein provided.

SEC. 3. That the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works shall be repaid 55 per centum of any moneys advanced under section 1 of this Act in annual installments over a period of not to exceed twenty-five years with interest thereon for the period of amortization: *Provided*, That such sums as may be necessary for the reimbursement herein required of the District of Columbia, and for the payment of interest, shall be included in the annual estimates of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, the first reimbursement to be made on June 30, 1941: *Provided further*, That whenever the District of Columbia is under obligation by virtue of the provisions of section 4 of Public Act Numbered 284, Seventy-first Congress, reimbursement under that Act shall be not less than \$300,000 in any one fiscal year.

SEC. 4. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall submit with their annual estimates to the Congress a report of their activities and expenditures under section 1 of this Act.

SEC. 5. That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are not authorized to borrow any further sum or sums under the provisions of an Act of Congress known as Public Law Numbered 465, Seventy-third Congress, approved June 25, 1934, as amended by Public Law Numbered 51, Seventy-fourth Congress, approved May 6, 1935.

Approved, June 25, 1938.