

Public Law 655

CHAPTER 513

AN ACT

July 3, 1956
[H. R. 7227]

To amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, to authorize the disposal of surplus property for civil defense purposes, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection 203 (j) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (40 U. S. C. 484 (j)) is amended to read as follows:

“(j) (1) Under such regulations as he may prescribe, the Administrator is authorized in his discretion to donate without cost (except for costs of care and handling) for use in any State for purposes of education, public health, or civil defense, or for research for any such purpose, any equipment, materials, books, or other supplies (including those capitalized in a working capital or similar fund) under the control of any executive agency which shall have been determined to be surplus property and which shall have been determined under paragraph (2), (3), or (4) of this subsection to be usable and necessary for any such purpose. In determining whether property is to be donated under this subsection, no distinction shall be made between property capitalized in a working-capital fund established under section 405 of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, or any similar fund, and any other property. No such property shall be transferred for use within any State except to the State agency designated under State law for the purpose of distributing, in conformity with the provisions of this subsection, all property allocated under this subsection for use within such State.

“(2) In the case of surplus property under the control of the Department of Defense, the Secretary of Defense shall determine whether such property is usable and necessary for educational activities which are of special interest to the armed services, such as maritime academies or military, naval, Air Force, or Coast Guard preparatory schools. If such Secretary shall determine that such property is usable and necessary for such purposes, he shall allocate it for transfer by the Administrator to the appropriate State agency for distribution to such educational activities. If he shall determine that such property is not usable and necessary for such purposes, it may be disposed of in accordance with paragraph (3) or paragraph (4) of this subsection.

“(3) Determination whether such surplus property (except surplus property allocated in conformity with paragraph (2) of this subsection) is usable and necessary for purposes of education or public health, or for research for any such purpose, in any State shall be made by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, who shall allocate such property on the basis of needs and utilization for transfer by the Administrator to such State agency for distribution to (A) tax-supported medical institutions, hospitals, clinics, health centers, school systems, schools, colleges, and universities, and (B) other non-profit medical institutions, hospitals, clinics, health centers, schools, colleges, and universities which are exempt from taxation under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. No such property shall be transferred to any State agency until the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare has received, from such State agency, a certification that such property is usable and needed for educational or public health purposes in the State, and until the Secretary has determined that such State agency has conformed to minimum standards of operation prescribed by the Secretary for the disposal of surplus property.

Surplus property.
Disposal.
63 Stat. 386.

Donations to
States.

63 Stat. 587.
5 USC 172d.

Armed services.
Educational ac-
tivities.

Education and
public health.

68A Stat. 163.
26 USC 501 (c)
(3).

Civil defense.

"(4) Determination whether such surplus property (except surplus property allocated in conformity with paragraph (2) of this subsection) is usable and necessary for civil defense purposes, including research, in any State shall be made by the Federal Civil Defense Administrator, who shall allocate such property on the basis of need and utilization for transfer by the Administrator of General Services to such State agency for distribution to civil defense organizations of such State, or political subdivisions and instrumentalities thereof, which are established pursuant to State law. No such property shall be transferred until the Federal Civil Defense Administrator has received from such State agency a certification that such property is usable and needed for civil defense purposes in the State, and until the Federal Civil Defense Administrator has determined that such State agency has conformed to minimum standards of operation prescribed by the Federal Civil Defense Administrator for the disposal of surplus property. The provisions of sections 201 (b), 401 (c), 401 (e), and 405 of the Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950, as amended, shall apply to the performance by the Federal Civil Defense Administrator of his responsibilities under this section.

64 Stat. 1248.
50 USC 2281,
2253, 2257.

Personal property.

"(5) The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Federal Civil Defense Administrator may impose reasonable terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions upon the use of any single item of personal property donated under paragraph (3) or paragraph (4), respectively, of this subsection which has an acquisition cost of \$2,500 or more.

"State".

"(6) The term 'State', as used in this subsection, includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Territories and possessions of the United States."

40 USC 484.

SEC. 2. (a) Clause (C) of paragraph (2) of subsection 203 (k) of such Act is amended by striking out the word "or" at the end thereof.

(b) Clause (D) of paragraph (2) of such subsection is amended by striking out the comma at the end thereof and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon and the word "or".

(c) Paragraph (2) of such subsection is amended by inserting, immediately after clause (D) thereof, as amended by this section, the following new clause:

"(E) the Federal Civil Defense Administrator, in the case of property transferred pursuant to this Act to civil defense organizations of the States or political subdivisions or instrumentalities thereof which are established by or pursuant to State law."

69 Stat. 83, 430.
40 USC 484.

SEC. 3. Subsection 203 (n) of such Act is amended to read as follows:

Cooperative agreements.

"(n) For the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of subsections (j) and (k), the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Federal Civil Defense Administrator, and the head of any Federal agency designated by either such officer, are authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with State surplus property distribution agencies designated in conformity with paragraph (1) of subsection (j). Such cooperative agreements may provide for utilization by such Federal agency, without payment or reimbursement, of the property, facilities, personnel, and services of the State agency in carrying out any such program, and for making available to such State agency, without payment or reimbursement, property, facilities, personnel, or services of such Federal agency in connection with such utilization."

SEC. 4. Subsection (h) of section 507 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, as added by clause (3) of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to provide for the acceptance and maintenance of Presidential libraries, and for other

purposes", approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 697), is redesignated as subsection (i) of such section.

SEC. 5. (a) Except as provided by subsection (b), the amendments made by this Act shall become effective on the first day of the first month beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) In the case of any State which on the date of enactment of this Act has not designated a single State agency for the purpose of distributing surplus property pursuant to subsection 203 (j) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, transfers of such property may be made by the Administrator of General Services under such subsection, as amended by this Act, to the State agency heretofore designated in such State to distribute property in conformity with such subsection for purposes of education and public health to the extent that such agency is authorized under State law to receive and distribute any class of property transferred pursuant to such subsection, or in the absence of any such agency or in the absence of authority of such agency to receive and distribute any such class of property, to any State agency or official authorized under State law to receive and distribute such property, until ninety calendar days have passed after the close of the first regular session of the legislature of such State beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

Approved July 3, 1956.

44 USC 397.

Effective date.

Exception.

Public Law 656

CHAPTER 514

AN ACT

To authorize the payment of compensation for certain losses and damages caused by United States Armed Forces during World War II.

July 3, 1956
[H. R. 10766]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to pay the sum of \$964,199.35 to the Vatican City in full and final settlement and discharge of all claims of the Vatican City for losses and damages caused by United States Armed Forces in the Papal Domain Castel Gandolfo during the course of hostilities conducted by such forces against German armed forces in Italy in 1944.

Vatican City.
Payment of
claims.

SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$964,199.35 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Appropriation.

Approved July 3, 1956.

Public Law 657

CHAPTER 515

AN ACT

To authorize the conveyance of a certain tract of land in North Carolina to the city of Charlotte, North Carolina.

July 3, 1956
[H. R. 8634]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of General Services is authorized and directed to convey to the Charlotte Park and Recreation Commission, an instrumentality of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, 18.06 acres of land, more or less, being that part of a 32.5 acre tract of land acquired by the Veterans' Administration on June 16, 1947, as a hospital site which has not been transferred to other Federal use, exact boundaries of said property to be determined by the Administrator.

Charlotte, N. C.
Conveyance.