

that purpose are hereby authorized: *Provided*, That, prior to such alteration, reconstruction, or relocation of said bridges, the location and plans shall be submitted to and approved by the Secretary of Transportation in accordance with existing laws."

Secretary of
Transportation,
approval.

Approved September 26, 1968.

Public Law 90-525

AN ACT

September 26, 1968
[H. R. 206]

To amend section 2733 of title 10 of the United States Code, to include authority for the settlement of claims incident to the noncombat activity of the Coast Guard while it is operating as a service in the Department of Transportation, to grant equivalent claims settlement authority to the Secretary of Defense, to increase the authority which may be delegated to an officer under subsection (g) of section 2733 of title 10 and subsection (f) of section 715 of title 32, from \$1,000 to \$2,500, 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 (a) of section 2733 of title 10 of the United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

Military claims.
Settlement
authority.
70A Stat. 153.

"(a) Under such regulations as the Secretary concerned may prescribe, he, or, subject to appeal to him, the Judge Advocate General of an armed force under his jurisdiction, or the chief legal officer of the Coast Guard, as appropriate, if designated by him, may settle and pay in an amount not more than \$5,000, a claim against the United States for—

"(1) damage to or loss of real property, including damage or loss incident to use and occupancy;

"(2) damage to or loss of personal property, including property bailed to the United States and including registered or insured mail damaged, lost, or destroyed by a criminal act while in the possession of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, as the case may be; or

"(3) personal injury or death;

either caused by a civilian officer or employee of that department, or the Coast Guard, or a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, as the case may be, acting within the scope of his employment, or otherwise incident to noncombat activities of that department, or the Coast Guard."

SEC. 2. Section 645 of title 14 of the United States Code is repealed two years after the effective date of this Act.

Repeal.
63 Stat. 547.

SEC. 3. Subsection (g) of section 2733 of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

72 Stat. 813.

"(g) In any case where the amount to be paid is not more than \$2,500, the authority contained in subsection (a) may be delegated to any officer of an armed force under the jurisdiction of the department concerned, subject to appeal to the Secretary concerned, or his designee for that purpose."

SEC. 4. Section 2733 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by the addition of a new subsection (h) as follows:

"(h) Under such regulations as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe, he or his designee has the same authority as the Secretary of a military department under this section with respect to the settlement of claims based on damage, loss, personal injury, or death caused by a civilian officer or employee of the Department of Defense acting within the scope of his employment or otherwise incident to noncombat activities of that department."

72 Stat. 813.

SEC. 5. Subsection (d) of section 2733 of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

Report to Congress.

74 Stat. 878.

"(d) If the Secretary concerned considers that a claim in excess of \$5,000 is meritorious and would otherwise be covered by this section, he may pay the claimant \$5,000 and report the excess to Congress for its consideration."

SEC. 6. Subsection (f) of section 715 of title 32, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

Ante, p. 877.

"(f) In any case where the amount to be paid is not more than \$2,500, the authority contained in subsection (a) may be delegated to any officer of the Army or the Air Force, as the case may be, who has been delegated authority under section 2733(g) of title 10, to settle similar claims, subject to appeal to the Secretary concerned, or his designee for that purpose."

Approved September 26, 1968.

Public Law 90-526

September 28, 1968

JOINT RESOLUTION

[H. J. Res. 1371]

To provide that it be the sense of Congress that a White House Conference on Aging be called by the President of the United States in 1971, to be planned and conducted by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, and for related purposes.

Whereas the primary responsibility for meeting the challenge and problems of aging is that of the States and communities, all levels of government are involved and must necessarily share responsibility; and it is therefore the policy of the Congress that the Federal Government shall work jointly with the States and their citizens, to develop recommendations and plans for action, consistent with the objectives of this joint resolution, which will serve the purposes of—

(1) assuring middle-aged and older persons equal opportunity with others to engage in gainful employment which they are capable of performing; and

(2) enabling retired persons to enjoy incomes sufficient for health and for participation in family and community life as self-respecting citizens; and

(3) providing housing suited to the needs of older persons and at prices they can afford to pay; and

(4) assisting middle-aged and older persons to make the preparation, develop skills and interests, and find social contacts which will make the gift of added years of life a period of reward and satisfaction; and

(5) stepping up research designed to relieve old age of its burdens of sickness, mental breakdown, and social ostracism; and

(6) evaluating progress made since the last White House Conference on Aging, and examining the changes which the next decade will bring in the character of the problems confronting older persons; and

Whereas it is essential that in all programs developed for the aging, emphasis should be upon the right and obligation of older persons to free choice and self-help in planning their own futures: Now, therefore, be it

White House
Conference on
Aging, 1971,
authorization.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) the President of the United States is authorized to call a White House Conference on Aging in 1971 in order to develop recommendations for further