Rights reserved by Congress.

Sec. 303. The right is reserved in the Congress to take such action and to make such changes, modifications, alterations, and improvements in connection with and upon any property acquired under this title, during or after the expiration of any life estate reserved therein, as the Congress shall deem proper and necessary to protect and preserve the same; but neither the improvements so made nor any increase in the value of the property by reason thereof shall be subject to taxation during the existence of any life estate reserved in the property.

Approved, July 18, 1939.

[CHAPTER 328]  
AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to aid the several States in making, or for having made, certain toll bridges on the system of Federal-aid highways free bridges, and for other purposes", by providing that funds available under such Act may be used to match regular and secondary Federal-aid road funds, 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 Act entitled "An Act to aid the several States in making, or for having made, certain toll bridges on the system of Federal-aid highways free bridges, and for other purposes", approved August 14, 1937, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"That in the case of each and every State, or political subdivision or subdivisions thereof, which, prior to July 1, 1941, shall have constructed or acquired any toll bridges on the approved system of Federal-aid highways, and which has caused or shall, prior to July 1, 1941, cause any such toll bridge or toll bridges to be made free, the Federal Works Administrator shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to pay out of the regular and secondary Federal-aid road funds apportioned to such State not to exceed 50 per centum of such amount as may be approved by the Federal Works Administrator as the reasonable value or construction cost of any such bridge which shall be least: Provided, That no payment of Federal funds shall be made on account of any such bridge which was not constructed in accordance with plans and specifications which would meet the standards required by the Secretary of Agriculture at the time such bridge was constructed, nor on account of any bridge the construction of which was completed prior to March 3, 1927: And provided further, That no such payment shall be made which will exceed 50 per centum of the reasonable value or cost of the labor and materials which were actually incorporated in the construction of such bridge, excluding all costs of rights-of-way, property damages, and financing costs, whichever, value or cost, shall be least, and any amount so paid on account of any such bridge from regular Federal-aid road funds shall be used for matching unobligated regular Federal-aid road funds available to the State for expenditure in the improvement of highways on the system of Federal-aid highways, and any amount so paid on account of any such bridge from secondary Federal-aid road funds shall be used for matching unobligated secondary Federal-aid road funds available to the State for expenditure in the improvement of secondary or feeder roads."

SEC. 2. That section 10 of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1938 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 10. With the approval of the Federal Works Administrator not to exceed 1 1/2 per centum of the amount apportioned for any year to any State under the Federal Highway Act, as amended and supplemented, except sections 3 and 23 thereof, shall hereafter be used with or without State funds for surveys, plans, engineering, and economic investigations of projects for future construction in
such State, either on the Federal-aid highway system and extensions thereof or on secondary or feeder roads or grade-crossing eliminations."

Approved, July 19, 1939.

[CHAPTER 329]

AN ACT

To restore certain benefits to World War veterans suffering with paralysis, paresis, or blindness, or who are helpless or bedridden, and for other purposes.

Approved, July 19, 1939.

[CHAPTER 330]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act for the grading and classification of clerks in the Foreign Service of the United States of America, and providing compensation therefor", approved February 23, 1931, as amended.

Approved, July 19, 1939.