

July 31, 1912.  
[H. R. 24598.]

**CHAP. 265.**—An Act For the relief of Jesus Silva, junior.

[Public, No. 248.]

Jesus Silva, jr.  
Patent to lands in  
New Mexico issued to.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Commissioner of the General Land Office be, and he is hereby, directed to cause to be issued to Jesus Silva, junior, a patent to the following-described lands: Lots three, four, and five of section twenty-five, township twenty-one south, range one west, New Mexico principal meridian, Las Cruces, New Mexico, land district, being the tract embraced in his homestead entry made October fifth, nineteen hundred and five, upon which cash certificate issued February third, nineteen hundred and nine: *Provided,* That in said patent there shall be expressly reserved to the United States, or its successors, the right to take or use, without compensation to patentee or his grantees, any or all of the said lands needed for or in connection with the construction, maintenance, and operation of the Rio Grande reclamation project.

Approved, July 31, 1912.

*Proviso.*  
Reservation for Rio  
Grande reclamation  
project.

August 1, 1912.  
[S. 4380.]

**CHAP. 268.**—An Act To harmonize the national law of salvage with the provisions of the international convention for the unification of certain rules with respect to assistance and salvage at sea, and for other purposes.

[Public, No. 249.]

Salvage.  
Remuneration not  
affected by ownership  
of vessel.  
Post, p. 1658.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the right to remuneration for assistance or salvage services shall not be affected by common ownership of the vessels rendering and receiving such assistance or salvage services.

Assistance to be  
rendered by master.

SEC. 2. That the master or person in charge of a vessel shall, so far as he can do so without serious danger to his own vessel, crew, or passengers, render assistance to every person who is found at sea in danger of being lost; and if he fails to do so, he shall, upon conviction, be liable to a penalty of not exceeding one thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or both.

Punishment for failure.

Salvors of life, to  
share in property  
saved.

SEC. 3. That salvors of human life, who have taken part in the services rendered on the occasion of the accident giving rise to salvage, are entitled to a fair share of the remuneration awarded to the salvors of the vessel, her cargo, and accessories.

Time limit for salvage suits.

SEC. 4. That a suit for the recovery of remuneration for rendering assistance or salvage services shall not be maintainable if brought later than two years from the date when such assistance or salvage was rendered, unless the court in which the suit is brought shall be satisfied that during such period there had not been any reasonable opportunity of arresting the assisted or salvaged vessel within the jurisdiction of the court or within the territorial waters of the country in which the libellant resides or has his principal place of business.

Not applicable to  
ships of war, etc.

SEC. 5. That nothing in this Act shall be construed as applying to ships of war or to Government ships appropriated exclusively to a public service.

In effect July 1, 1912.

SEC. 6. That this Act shall take effect and be in force on and after July first, nineteen hundred and twelve.

Approved, August 1, 1912.

August 1, 1912.  
[H. R. 18033.]

**CHAP. 269.**—An Act To modify and amend the mining laws in their application to the Territory of Alaska, and for other purposes.

[Public, No. 250.]

Alaska.  
Association placer-  
mining claims limited.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That no association placer-mining claim shall hereafter be located in Alaska in excess of forty acres, and on every placer-mining claim hereafter located