

**CHAP. 39.**—Joint Resolution To relieve the owners of mining claims who have been mustered into the military or naval service of the United States as officers or enlisted men from performing assessment work during the term of such service.

July 17, 1917.  
[S. J. Res. 33.]  
[Pub. Res., No. 10.]

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of section twenty-three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which require that on each mining claim located after the tenth day of May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and until patent has been issued therefor, not less than \$100 worth of labor shall be performed or improvements made during each year, shall not apply to claims or parts of claims owned by officers or enlisted men who have been or may, during the present war with Germany, be mustered into the military or naval service of the United States to serve during their enlistment in the war with Germany, so that no mining claim or any part thereof owned by such person which has been regularly located and recorded shall be subject to forfeiture for nonperformance of the annual assessments during the period of his service or until six months after such owner is mustered out of the service or until six months after his death in the service: *Provided*, That the claimant of any mining location, in order to obtain the benefits of this resolution, shall file, or cause to be filed, a notice in the office where the location notice or certificate is recorded, before the expiration of the assessment year during which he is so mustered, giving notice of his muster into the service of the United States and of his desire to hold said mining claim under this resolution.*

Public lands.  
Mine assessment work not required of claimants in service during present war.  
R. S., sec. 2324, p. 426.  
Post, pp. 343, 448.

*Proviso.*  
Notice of muster, etc., to be filed.

Approved, July 17, 1917.

**CHAP. 40.**—An Act To authorize the President to increase temporarily the Signal Corps of the Army and to purchase, manufacture, maintain, repair, and operate airships, and to make appropriations therefor, and for other purposes.

July 24, 1917.  
[H. R. 5326.]  
[Public, No. 29.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for and during the existing emergency, the President be, and is hereby, authorized to increase the present authorized commissioned and enlisted strength of the Signal Corps of the Army, including the Aviation Section thereof.*

Army.  
Signal Corps and Aviation Section increased temporarily.

**SEC. 2.** That to provide the additional commissioned personnel required by this Act the President is authorized to promote, appoint, detail, or attach as temporary officers in the Signal Corps, including the Aviation Section thereof, officers of the Regular Army, National Army, or National Guard, or the Officers' Reserve Corps, or to appoint temporarily enlisted men of the Regular Army, enlisted men of the Enlisted Reserve Corps, or persons from civil life: *Provided*, That no person shall be so promoted, appointed, detailed, or attached until he shall have been found physically, mentally, and morally qualified under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of War: *Provided further*, That officers with rank not above colonel shall be appointed and commissioned by the President alone, irrespective of the rank or grade held by them on the date of the passage of this Act, and that officers above the grade of colonel shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, irrespective of the rank or grade held by them on the date of the passage of this Act.

Additional commissioned personnel authorized.

*Provisos.*  
Qualifications.

Appointments by President alone.

By President and Senate.

Additional enlisted men by enlistment or draft.

*Provisos.*

**SEC. 3.** That to provide the additional enlisted men required by this Act, the President is authorized to raise and maintain, by voluntary enlistment or by draft, such number of enlisted men as he may deem necessary and to embody them into organizations hereinafter provided for in section four: *Provided*, That the draft