

CHAP. 109.—Joint Resolution Relating to supervision of the Lincoln Memorial.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in the exercise of its control and direction for the construction of the Lincoln Memorial authorized by Act of Congress, approved February 9, 1911, the commission created by said Act shall designate to perform the duty of special resident commissioner, to represent the commission in the oversight of the work, the Honorable John Temple Graves, recently appointed a member of the Lincoln Memorial Commission, as the successor of the Honorable Joseph C. Blackburn, deceased, and for the special service of the member so designated, he shall be entitled to receive compensation at the rate of \$5,000 per annum out of the appropriations for the construction of such memorial.

Approved, March 29, 1920.

March 29, 1920.
[H. J. Res. 316.]
[Pub. Res., No. 35.]
Lincoln Memorial Commission.
John Temple Graves made special resident member.
Vol. 36, p. 898.
Vol. 38, p. 768.

Compensation.

CHAP. 111.—An Act Relating to the maintenance of actions for death on the high seas and other navigable waters.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever the death of a person shall be caused by wrongful act, neglect, or default occurring on the high seas beyond a marine league from the shore of any State, or the District of Columbia, or the Territories or dependencies of the United States, the personal representative of the decedent may maintain a suit for damages in the district courts of the United States, in admiralty, for the exclusive benefit of the decedent's wife, husband, parent, child, or dependent relative against the vessel, person, or corporation which would have been liable if death had not ensued.

SEC. 2. That the recovery in such suit shall be a fair and just compensation for the pecuniary loss sustained by the persons for whose benefit the suit is brought and shall be apportioned among them by the court in proportion to the loss they may severally have suffered by reason of the death of the person by whose representative the suit is brought.

SEC. 3. That such suit shall be begun within two years from the date of such wrongful act, neglect, or default, unless during that period there has not been reasonable opportunity for securing jurisdiction of the vessel, person, or corporation sought to be charged; but after the expiration of such period of two years the right of action hereby given shall not be deemed to have lapsed until ninety days after a reasonable opportunity to secure jurisdiction has offered.

SEC. 4. That whenever a right of action is granted by the law of any foreign State on account of death by wrongful act, neglect, or default occurring upon the high seas, such right may be maintained in an appropriate action in admiralty in the courts of the United States without abatement in respect to the amount for which recovery is authorized, any statute of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 5. That if a person die as the result of such wrongful act, neglect, or default as is mentioned in section 1 during the pendency in a court of admiralty of the United States of a suit to recover damages for personal injuries in respect of such act, neglect, or default, the personal representative of the decedent may be substituted as a party and the suit may proceed as a suit under this Act for the recovery of the compensation provided in section 2.

SEC. 6. That in suits under this Act the fact that the decedent has been guilty of contributory negligence shall not bar recovery, but

March 30, 1920.
[S. 2085.]
[Public, No. 165.]

United States courts. Actions for damages from death on the high seas, etc., allowed in.

Apportionment of recovery.

Time limit to bring suits.

Actions allowed by law of foreign country may be brought in Federal courts.

Death occurring during suit for damages. Recovery by personal representative. Post, p. 1638.

Effect of contributory negligence.