

Time restriction.

this Act shall be null and void unless the bridge hereby authorized be completed on or before January 31, 1927.

Amendment.

SEC. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, May 7, 1926.

May 8, 1926.

[S. 2296.]

[Public, No. 203.]

CHAP. 273.—An Act Authorizing casualty companies, surety companies, insurance companies or associations or fraternal or beneficial societies to file bills of interpleader.

United States courts. Casualty, surety, insurance companies, etc., may file interpleader in, to determine beneficiaries, of different States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the district courts of the United States shall have original jurisdiction to entertain and determine suits in equity begun by bills of interpleader duly verified, filed by any casualty company, surety company, insurance company or association or fraternal or beneficial society, and averring that one or more persons who are bona fide claimants against such company, association, or society resides or reside within the territorial jurisdiction of said court; that such company, association, or society has in its custody or possession money or property of the value of \$500 or more, or has issued a bond or a policy of insurance or certificate of membership providing for the payment of \$500 or more to the obligee or obligees in such bond or as insurance, indemnity, or benefits to a beneficiary, beneficiaries, or the heirs, next of kin, legal representatives, or assignee of the person insured or member; that two or more adverse claimants, citizens of different States, are claiming to be entitled to such money or property or the penalty of such bond, or to such insurance, indemnity, or benefits; that such company, association, or society has deposited such money or property or has paid the amount of such bond or policy into the registry of the court, there to abide the judgment of the court.

Deposit in registry of court.

Jurisdiction.

If policy not assigned.

If policy assigned.

If payable to beneficiary and not assigned.

If claimants residents of different districts.

Issue of process, etc., enjoining suit by claimant in other courts.

Procedure.

SEC. 2. In all such cases if the policy or certificate is drawn payable to the estate of the insured and has not been assigned in accordance with the terms of the policy or certificate the district court of the district of the residence of the personal representative of the insured shall have jurisdiction of such suit. In case the policy or certificate has been assigned during the life of the insured in accordance with the terms of the policy or certificate, the district court of the district of the residence of the assignee or of his personal representative shall have jurisdiction. In case the policy or certificate is drawn payable to a beneficiary or beneficiaries and there has been no such assignment as aforesaid the jurisdiction shall be in the district court of the district in which the beneficiary or beneficiaries or their personal representatives reside. In case there are claimants of such money or property, or in case there are beneficiaries under any such bond or policy resident in more districts than one, then jurisdiction shall be in the district court in any district in which a beneficiary or the personal representative of a claimant or a deceased claimant or beneficiary resides. Notwithstanding any provision of the Judicial Code to the contrary, said court shall have power to issue its process for all such claimants and to issue an order of injunction against each of them, enjoining them from instituting or prosecuting any suit or proceeding in any State court or in any other Federal court on account of such money or property or on such bond or on such policy or certificate of membership until the further order of the court; which process and order of injunction shall be returnable at such time as the said court or a judge thereof shall determine and shall be addressed to and served by the United States marshals

for the respective districts wherein said claimants reside or may be found.

SEC. 3. Said court shall hear and determine the cause and shall discharge the complainant from further liability; and shall make the injunction permanent and enter all such other orders and decrees as may be suitable and proper, and issue all such customary writs as may be necessary or convenient to carry out and enforce the same.

SEC. 4. Public Act numbered 346, Sixty-fourth Congress, entitled "An Act authorizing insurance companies and fraternal beneficiary societies to file bills of interpleader," approved February 22, 1917, and Public Act numbered 465, Sixty-eighth Congress, entitled "An Act to amend an Act entitled 'An Act authorizing insurance companies or associations and fraternal beneficiary societies to file bills of interpleader,' approved February 22, 1917," approved February 25, 1925, be and the same are hereby repealed. Said repeal shall not affect any act done or any right, accruing or accrued in any suit or proceeding had or commenced under said Acts hereby repealed, prior to the passage of this Act, but all such acts or rights, suits or proceedings shall continue and be valid and may be prosecuted and enforced in the same manner as if said Acts had not been repealed hereby.

Approved, May 8, 1926.

Full power of court.

Former laws repealed.  
Vol. 39, p. 929.

Vol. 43, p. 976.

Prior suits, etc., not affected.

**CHAP. 274.**—An Act To equalize the pay of retired officers of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service.

May 8, 1926.  
[S. 1786.]  
[Public, No. 204.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That hereafter the retired pay of the officers and warrant officers of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service, who were retired on or before June 30, 1922, shall not be less than that provided for the officers and warrant officers of these services of equal rank and length of service retired subsequent to that date: *Provided,* That nothing in this Act shall operate to reduce the pay of any officer or warrant officer now on the retired list.

Army, etc.  
Pay of officers retired before June 30, 1922, to be not less than of officers retired subsequently.

*Proviso.*  
No pay reduced.

SEC. 2. That all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed.

Inconsistent laws repealed.

Approved, May 8, 1926.

**CHAP. 276.**—An Act Making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of such District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, and for other purposes.

May 10, 1926.  
[H. R. 10198.]  
[Public, No. 205.]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in order to defray the expenses of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, any revenue (not including the proportionate share of the United States in any revenue arising as the result of the expenditure of appropriations made for the fiscal year 1924 and prior fiscal years) now required by law to be credited to the District of Columbia and the United States in the same proportion that each contributed to the activity or source from whence such revenue was derived shall be credited wholly to the District of Columbia, and, in addition, \$9,000,000 is appropriated, out of any money in the

District of Columbia.  
Appropriations for expenses of, from District revenues and \$9,000,000 from the Treasury.

Revenue from activities from all sources to be credited to the District.