

SEC. 14. That the balance remaining from the authorization of \$10,000,000 provided in section 7 of the Flood Control Act approved June 28, 1938, for the five-year period ending June 30, 1944, to correlate the program for the improvement of watersheds by the Department of Agriculture for measures of run-off and waterflow retardation and soil-erosion prevention on the watersheds with the program for the improvement of rivers and other waterways by the Department of War is hereby reauthorized to be expended during the post-war period by the Department of Agriculture for the prosecution of the work authorized in section 13 of this Act: *Provided*, That not more than 20 per centum of the authorization made available herein shall be expended on any one project.

Reauthorization of funds.
52 Stat. 1225.

SEC. 15. That section 7 of the Act of June 28, 1938 (Public, Numbered 761, Seventy-fifth Congress), is hereby amended by adding at the end of the first sentence thereof the following: "The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized in his discretion to undertake such emergency measures for run-off retardation and soil-erosion prevention as may be needed to safeguard lives and property from floods and the products of erosion on any watershed whenever fire or any other natural element or force has caused a sudden impairment of that watershed: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$100,000 out of any funds heretofore or hereafter appropriated for the prosecution by the Secretary of Agriculture of works of improvement or measures for run-off and waterflow retardation and soil-erosion prevention on watersheds may be expended during any one fiscal year for such emergency measures."

52 Stat. 1225.

Emergency work by Department of Agriculture.

Limitation.

Approved December 22, 1944.

[CHAPTER 666]

AN ACT

To amend the Act of Congress approved May 20, 1935, entitled "An Act concerning the incorporated town of Seward, Territory of Alaska", as amended.

December 22, 1944
[H. R. 4502]
[Public Law 535]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of Congress approved May 20, 1935 (49 Stat. 282), entitled "An Act concerning the incorporated town of Seward, Territory of Alaska", as amended by the Act of Congress approved June 21, 1941 (55 Stat. 253), is hereby amended by inserting after section 6 thereof the following new section:

Seward, Alaska.

"SEC. 7. The town of Seward is hereby authorized at any time or times to construct, purchase, or otherwise acquire improvements, betterments, or extensions to any electric or other utility properties owned or to be owned by the town of Seward pursuant to this or any other section of this Act, and shall be authorized to issue its revenue bonds to finance in whole or in part the cost of said improvements, betterments, or extensions (including the cost of integrating the systems which may be acquired under section 6 of this Act with the properties theretofore owned and the cost of integrating any other newly acquired properties with those theretofore owned), which bonds may be made payable and be secured in the same manner as other revenue bonds authorized to be issued pursuant to any other sections of this Act, and shall be issued in compliance with other bond provisions contained in this Act, so far as applicable. The issuance of bonds for the purpose or purposes provided in this section may be combined and consolidated with the issuance of any other bonds elsewhere authorized in this or any other section of this Act to be issued for any other purpose or purposes, all of which bonds shall in

Acquisition of Improvements or extensions to utility properties.

Issuance of revenue bonds.

Consolidation of bond issues.

such case constitute a single issue. The provisions of section 6 of this Act, which require the consent of holders of outstanding bonds and the approval of electors to the acquisition of the Seward Light and Power Company properties therein mentioned and to the issuance of any bonds therefor, shall not be applicable to the issuance of bonds for any other purpose under this Act.

Refunding revenue bonds.

"The town of Seward is hereby authorized at any time or times to issue its refunding revenue bonds to refund revenue bonds then outstanding pursuant to this or any other section of this Act, together with accrued interest thereon and on any unpaid matured coupons pertinent thereto. Said refunding bonds may be made payable and be secured in the same manner as any other bonds authorized to be issued pursuant to this Act, and shall be issued in compliance with other bond provisions contained in this Act, so far as applicable.

Sale or purchase of bonds.

"Any of the bonds issued pursuant to this or any other section of this Act may be sold to and purchased by Reconstruction Finance Corporation or any other purchaser without any proceedings or the happening of any conditions or things other than those specified in this Act and without the necessity for compliance with any provisions of any other Act, it being intended that this Act shall be complete authority for the issuance of the bonds herein authorized, and any restrictions, limitations, or regulations relative to the issuance of bonds which may be contained in any other Act shall not apply to the bonds issued pursuant to any section of this Act. All bonds issued under the provisions of this Act shall have and are hereby declared to have all the qualities and incidents of negotiable instruments under the negotiable instruments law of the Territory of Alaska."

Negotiability.

Approved December 22, 1944.

[CHAPTER 667]

AN ACT

December 22, 1944
[H. R. 4547]
[Public Law 536]

To amend the Act of February 14, 1931, as amended, so as to permit the compensation on a mileage basis, of civilian officers or employees for the use of privately owned airplanes while traveling on official business.

Travel expenses of civilian employees.
5 U. S. C. § 73a.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of February 14, 1931 (46 Stat. 1103), entitled "An Act to permit payments for the operation of motorcycles and automobiles used for necessary travel on official business, on a mileage basis in lieu of actual operating expenses", be amended by the addition of the words "or airplane" after the word "automobile" and before the words "for such transportation," so that as amended it shall read as follows:

Use of privately owned motorcycle, automobile, or airplane.

"A civilian officer or employee engaged in necessary travel on official business away from his designated post of duty may be paid, in lieu of actual expenses of transportation, under regulations to be prescribed by the President, not to exceed 2 cents per mile for the use of a privately owned motorcycle or 5 cents per mile for the use of a privately owned automobile or airplane for such transportation, whenever such mode of travel has been previously authorized and payment on such mileage basis is more economical and advantageous to the United States. All laws or parts of laws are hereby modified or repealed to the extent the same may be in conflict herewith."

Effective date.

SEC. 2. This Act shall become effective ninety days after the approval thereof by the President.

Approved December 22, 1944.