AN ACT

To provide basic authority for certain administrative expenditures for the Veterans' Administration, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That appropriations hereafter made for the Veterans' Administration shall be available, subject to such limitations as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe by regulations, (1) for furnishing and laundering such wearing apparel as may be prescribed for employees in the performance of their official duties, and (2) for transporting children of Veterans' Administration employees located at isolated stations to and from school in available Government-owned automotive equipment.

Sec. 2. Veterans Regulation Numbered 6 (a), as amended, is hereby amended by adding a new paragraph IX as follows:

"IX. Subject to such regulations as he may prescribe, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to provide for the purchase of tobacco to be furnished to veterans receiving hospital treatment or domiciliary care in Veterans' Administration hospitals or homes."

Sec. 3. The Act of March 14, 1940 (54 Stat. 49; 38 U. S. C. 76), is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section as follows:

"Sec. 2. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized to provide for the purchase of printed reduced-fare requests for use by veterans when traveling at their own expense from or to Veterans' Administration facilities."

Sec. 4. Within the limitations of the appropriations made therefor the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to provide for the preparation, shipment, installation, and display of exhibits, photographic displays, moving pictures and other visual educational information and descriptive material, including the purchase or rental of equipment.

Sec. 5. Section 1500 of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, as amended (38 U. S. C. 697), is amended by inserting "(a)" immediately following "Sec. 1500" and adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(b) When so specified in an appropriation or other Act, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to make allotments and transfers to the Federal Security Agency (Public Health Service), the War, Navy, and Interior Departments, for disbursement by them under the various headings of their applicable appropriations, of such amounts as are necessary for the care and treatment of beneficiaries of the Veterans' Administration: Provided, That the amounts to be charged the Veterans' Administration for such care and treatment of patients in hospitals shall be calculated on the basis of a per diem rate approved by the Bureau of the Budget."

Sec. 6. Section 406 of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended (50 U. S. C. App. 546), is amended by adding the following new sentence at the end thereof: "Any moneys received as repayment of debts incurred under this article, as originally enacted and as amended, shall be credited to the appropriation for the payment of claims under this article."

Approved April 3, 1948.