

consider to be in the public interest, any land or interests in land situated within sections 15, 22, 27, 34, block 234, Brewster County, Texas, which he shall consider to be suitable for addition to the Big Bend National Park: *Provided, however*, That the aggregate cost to the Federal Government of properties acquired hereafter and under the provisions hereof shall not exceed the sum of \$10,000. Properties acquired pursuant to this Act shall become a part of the park upon acquisition of title thereto by the United States.

Approved August 30, 1949.

[CHAPTER 523]

AN ACT

August 30, 1949
[H. R. 4498]
[Public Law 277]

To amend section 6 of the Act of April 15, 1938, to expedite the carriage of mail by granting additional authority to the Postmaster General to award contracts for the transportation of mail by aircraft upon star routes.

Postal Service.

52 Stat. 219.

Star route air-mail service.

Laws, etc., applicable to contracts.

Nonapplicability.

52 Stat. 987.
49 U. S. C. §§ 481-496; Supp. II, § 481 note.
52 Stat. 1000.
49 U. S. C. §§ 487-489, 492-494, 496.
39 U. S. C. §§ 488a, 488b.

52 Stat. 973.
49 U. S. C. § 401 et seq.; Supp. II, § 401 et seq.
Ante, pp. 480, 678.
Cancellation of contract.

Requirements of bidder.

"State."

Publication in Federal Register.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 6 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for experimental air-mail services to further develop safety, efficiency, and economy, and for other purposes", approved April 15, 1938 (39 U. S. C. 470), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. (a) Whenever he shall find it to be in the public interest, because of the nature of the terrain, or the impracticability or inadequacy of surface transportation, and where the cost thereof is reasonably compatible with the service to be provided, the Postmaster General may award contracts for the transportation by aircraft upon star routes of any or all classes of mail (including but not limited to air mail and air parcel post), payment for such service to be made from the appropriation for inland transportation by star routes: *Provided*, That all laws and regulations not in conflict with this section governing star routes shall be applicable to contracts made under the authority of this section: *Provided further*, That the provisions of title IV of the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, approved June 23, 1938 (52 Stat. 973), as amended other than sections 407, 408, 409, 412, 413, 414, and 416 thereof shall not apply to the transportation of mail under this section: *Provided further*, That prior to advertising for bids for the transportation of mail by aircraft on any star route, except as authorized by the Act of October 14, 1940 (54 Stat. 1175), entitled 'An Act authorizing special arrangements in the transportation of mail within the Territory of Alaska,' the Postmaster General shall obtain from the Civil Aeronautics Board a certification that the proposed route does not conflict with the development of air transportation as contemplated under the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, as amended: *Provided further*, That any such contract made under authority of this section shall be canceled upon the issuance by the Civil Aeronautics Board of an authorization under title IV of the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, as amended, to any air carrier to engage in the transportation of mail by aircraft between any of the points named in such contract: *And provided further*, That no bid for a contract under this section shall be considered unless the bidder is a resident of or qualified to do business as a common carrier by air in a State within which one or more points to be served under such proposed contract are located. As used in this section, the term 'State' includes the several States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the District of Columbia.

"(b) Upon receipt of a request from the Postmaster General for the certification required in subsection (a) above, the Civil Aeronautics Board shall promptly publish in the Federal Register, and send to such persons as the Board may by regulation determine, a

notice describing the proposed air star route. After giving notice pursuant to this subsection, the Board shall afford interested persons a reasonable opportunity to submit written data, views or arguments with or without opportunity to present the same orally in any manner. The Board shall give due consideration to all relevant matter presented and, not less than thirty days after notice is given, except in any situation in which it for good cause finds (and incorporates the finding and a brief statement of the reasons therefor in its order granting certification) that such period of advance notice is impracticable, unnecessary or contrary to the public interest, shall grant the requested certification upon finding that the proposed route does not conflict with the development of air transportation as contemplated under the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, as amended."

Approved August 30, 1949.

52 Stat. 973.
49 U. S. C. § 401 *et seq.*; Supp. II, § 401 *et seq.*
Ante, pp. 480, 678.

[CHAPTER 524]

JOINT RESOLUTION

To amend the National Housing Act, as amended.

August 30, 1949
[S. J. Res. 109]
[Public Law 278]

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the National Housing Act, as amended, is hereby amended—

(1) by striking out of the first sentence of section 2 (a) "September 1, 1949" and inserting in lieu thereof "November 1, 1949".

(2) by striking out of the proviso in section 203 (a) "\$5,300,000,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$5,500,000,000" and by striking out of such proviso "\$5,500,000,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$6,000,000,000".

(3) by striking out of the second proviso in section 603 (a) "August 31, 1949" in each place where it appears therein and inserting in lieu thereof "October 31, 1949".

Approved August 30, 1949.

49 Stat. 1187.
12 U. S. C., Supp. II, § 1703 (a).
Ante, p. 421; *post*, p. 905.
48 Stat. 1248.
12 U. S. C. § 1709 (a).
Ante, p. 421; *post*, p. 905.

55 Stat. 56.
12 U. S. C., Supp. II, § 1738 (a).
Ante, pp. 29, 421; *post*, p. 905.

[CHAPTER 525]

AN ACT

To transfer from the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to the Attorney General of the United States for the use of the Bureau of Prisons, a certain tract of land located at Chillicothe, Ohio.

August 31, 1949
[S. 1859]
[Public Law 279]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following-described tract of land containing approximately three hundred seventy-nine and one-tenth acres, more or less, including improvements, if any, now under control of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, is hereby transferred to the possession, control, and jurisdiction of the Attorney General of the United States for the use of the Bureau of Prisons:

A plot of ground being at the western boundary of the United States Veterans' Administration Hospital holdings in Ross County, Ohio, and starting at U. S. Monument 168 thence south seventy-eight degrees two minutes forty-four seconds west for a distance of six hundred seventy-four and thirty one-hundredths feet to U. S. Monument 169, thence south eighty-two degrees two minutes thirty-two seconds west for a distance of two thousand three hundred twenty-eight and three one-hundredths feet to U. S. Monument 175, thence north forty-two degrees fifty-six minutes thirty-six seconds west for a distance of one thousand nine hundred eighty and sixty-five one-hundredths feet to U. S. Monument 178, thence north thirty-four degrees six minutes forty-three seconds east for a distance of one thousand seventy-seven

Bureau of Prisons.
Conveyance.