

Secretary of Defense currently and fully informed with respect to the status, progress, and cost of, and all other pertinent matters concerning, such public works project. No person shall be appointed as Director of Installations unless the Secretary of Defense is satisfied that he has had a substantial amount of experience in the construction of public works of the types constructed by the military departments. The Secretary of Defense shall provide for furnishing the Director of Installations with such engineering, clerical, stenographic, and other personnel as he may require in order adequately to perform his functions.

Contracts.

SEC. 409. Whenever—

65 Stat. 700.
41 USC 153, 254.

(a) the President determines that compliance with the requirements of Public Law 245, Eighty-second Congress in the case of contracts made pursuant to this Act with respect to the establishment or development of military installations and facilities in foreign countries would interfere with the carrying out of the provisions of this Act; and

(b) the Secretary of Defense and the Comptroller General have agreed upon alternative methods for conducting an adequate audit of such contracts,

the President is authorized to exempt such contracts from the requirements of Public Law 245, Eighty-second Congress.

Approved July 14, 1952.

Public Law 535

CHAPTER 727

AN ACT

July 14, 1952
[H. R. 6845]

To continue until the close of June 30, 1953, the suspension of duties and import taxes on metal scrap, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 2 of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 869, Eighty-first Congress, ch. 1119, second session), is hereby amended by striking out "June 30, 1952" and inserting in lieu thereof "June 30, 1953": *Provided,* That this Act shall not apply to lead scrap.

64 Stat. 1093.
19 USC 1001,
par. 301 note.

Approved July 14, 1952.

Public Law 536

CHAPTER 728

AN ACT

July 14, 1952
[H. R. 7721]

To extend the benefits of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 to persons serving in the Armed Forces of the United States after the termination of the state of war between the United States and the Government of Japan and prior to July 2, 1955.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) section 2 of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof a semicolon and the following: "and (6) those ex-service men and women who have served on active duty in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States during the period beginning April 28, 1952, and ending July 1, 1955 (the period after the termination of the state of war between the United States and the Government of Japan during which persons may be inducted under existing law for training and service in the Armed Forces), and have been separated from such Armed Forces under honorable conditions".

Veterans preference.
58 Stat. 387; 62
Stat. 3.
5 USC 851.

(b) Clauses (3) and (5) of such section 2, as amended, are amended by inserting after "has been authorized)" a comma and the following: "or during the period specified in clause (6) of this section".

SEC. 2. Section 3 of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, is amended by inserting after "section 2 (4)" the following: "and (6)".

SEC. 3. (a) The rate of compensation of any employee who was changed from a position, the rate of pay of which was fixed in accordance with prevailing local wages upon recommendation of wage boards or other similar authority, to a position under the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, and placed in the appropriate step of the grade during the period between the effective date and the date of enactment of Public Law 201, approved October 24, 1951, shall be adjusted retroactively in accordance with the new rate provided by section 1 (a) of Public Law 201, Eighty-second Congress, for the step in which he was placed at the time of such assignment.

(b) This section shall become effective as of the first day of the first pay period which began after June 30, 1951.

(c) Retroactive compensation or salary shall be paid under this section only in the case of an individual in the service of the United States (including service in the Armed Forces of the United States) or the municipal government of the District of Columbia on the date of enactment of this Act, except that such retroactive compensation or salary shall be paid a retired officer or employee for services rendered during the period beginning with the first day of the first pay period which began after June 30, 1951, and ending with the date of his retirement, or the person or persons specified in section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to facilitate the settlement of the accounts of certain deceased civilian officers and employees of the Government", approved August 3, 1950 (Public Law 636, Eighty-first Congress), in the case of a deceased officer or employee for services rendered during the period beginning with the first day of the first pay period which began after June 30, 1951, and ending with the date of said officer or employee's death.

Approved July 14, 1952.

5 USC 852.

Retroactive adjustment of certain pay rates.

63 Stat. 954.
5 USC 1071 note.
65 Stat. 612.

5 USC 1113(b), (c).

Retroactive compensation.

64 Stat. 395.
5 USC 61f.

Public Law 537

CHAPTER 739

AN ACT

To amend the Contract Settlement Act of 1944 and to abolish the Appeal Board of the Office of Contract Settlement.

July 14, 1952
[S. 2199]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Appeal Board established under section 13 (d) of the Contract Settlement Act of 1944 is hereby abolished: Provided, however, That said abolition shall not become effective until six months after the enactment of this Act or such later date, nor more than nine months after the enactment of this Act, as may be fixed by written order of the Director of Contract Settlement published in the Federal Register. Such an order shall be made only in case the Director finds that it is impracticable for the Appeal Board to dispose of its pending business before the date fixed for abolition of the Board by this Act or a previous order of the Director. No such order shall be made less than thirty days prior to the date theretofore fixed for abolition of the Appeal Board.

Office of Contract Settlement.
Appeal Board.
58 Stat. 660.
41 USC 113.

SEC. 2. (a) Upon the effective date of the abolition of the Appeal Board all appeals and disputes pending therein shall be terminated