

Building. Any officer or member of the Metropolitan Police force or the Fire Department of the District of Columbia living outside of the District of Columbia shall have and maintain a telephone at all times in his residence.

Telephone.

(b) For the purposes of this Act, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are hereby authorized, in their discretion, to prescribe the area constituting the "Washington, District of Columbia, metropolitan district" so as to include the District of Columbia and the territory within any radius which is greater than twelve miles but not more than twenty miles from the United States Capitol Building.

SEC. 2. No member of the Fire Department of the District of Columbia shall, unless on leave of absence, go beyond the confines of the District of Columbia, or be absent from duty without permission. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the right of officers and members of the Fire Department to reside anywhere within the Washington, District of Columbia, metropolitan district. Thirty days shall be the term of total sick leave in any one year without disallowance of pay. Leaves of absence with pay of members of the Fire Department of the District of Columbia may be extended in cases of illness or injury incurred in line of duty, upon recommendation of the board of surgeons approved by the Commissioners, for such period exceeding thirty days in any one year as in the judgment of the Commissioners may be necessary. For the purposes of this subsection "any one year" shall mean a year from January 1 to December 31, both dates inclusive.

Fire Department.  
Leave.

"Any one year".

SEC. 3. The following laws or parts of laws are hereby repealed:

(1) Section 373 of the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to the District of Columbia (D. C. Code, sec. 4-132).

(2) The Act entitled "An Act to amend section 483 of title 20 of the Code of the District of Columbia as to residence of members of the Police Department", approved August 9, 1935 (D. C. Code, sec. 4-132).

49 Stat. 568.

(3) The second paragraph under the heading "FIRE DEPARTMENT" of the Act entitled "An Act making appropriations to provide for the expenses of the government of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, nineteen fourteen, and for other purposes", approved March 4, 1913, as amended (D. C. Code, sec. 4-409).

37 Stat. 960.

(4) The Act entitled "An Act to amend section 559 of title 20 of the Code of the District of Columbia as to restriction on residence of members of the fire department", approved August 9, 1935 (D. C. Code, sec. 4-409).

49 Stat. 567.

Approved July 25, 1956.

Public Law 798

CHAPTER 727

AN ACT

To simplify accounting, facilitate the payment of obligations, and for other purposes.

July 25, 1956  
[H. R. 9593]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) the account for each appropriation available for obligation for a definite period of time shall be closed as follows:

Government obligations.  
Accounting procedure.

(1) On June 30 of the second full fiscal year following the fiscal year or years for which the appropriation is available for obligation, the obligated balance shall be transferred to an appropriation account of the agency or subdivision thereof responsible for the liquidation of

Merged accounts.

Withdrawal of unobligated balance.

the obligations, in which account shall be merged the amounts so transferred from all appropriation accounts for the same general purposes; and

(2) Upon the expiration of the period of availability for obligation, the unobligated balance shall be withdrawn and, if the appropriation was derived in whole or in part from the general fund, shall revert to such fund, but if the appropriation was derived solely from a special or trust fund, shall revert, unless otherwise provided by law, to the fund from which derived: *Provided*, That when it is determined necessary by the head of the agency concerned that a portion of the unobligated balance withdrawn is required to liquidate obligations and effect adjustments, such portion of the unobligated balance may be restored to the appropriate accounts: *Provided further*, That prior thereto the head of the agency concerned shall make such report with respect to each such restoration as the Director of the Bureau of the Budget may require, and shall submit such report to the Director, the Comptroller General, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate.

Reports.

Time.

(b) The withdrawals required by subsection (a) (2) of this section shall be made

(1) not later than September 30 of the fiscal year immediately following the fiscal year in which the period of availability for obligation expires, in the case of an appropriation available both for obligation and disbursement on or after the date of approval of this Act; or

(2) not later than September 30 of the fiscal year immediately following the fiscal year in which this Act is approved, in the case of an appropriation, which, on the date of approval of this Act, is available only for disbursement.

Obligated balance.

(c) For the purposes of this Act, the obligated balance of an appropriation account as of the close of the fiscal year shall be the amount of unliquidated obligations applicable to such appropriation less the amount collectible as repayments to the appropriation; the unobligated balance shall represent the difference between the obligated balance reported pursuant to section 1311 (b) of the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1955 (68 Stat. 830; 31 U. S. C. 200 (b)), and the total unexpended balance. Collections authorized to be credited to an appropriation but not received until after the transfer of the obligated appropriation balance as required by subsection (a) (1) of this Act, shall, unless otherwise authorized by law, be credited to the account into which the obligated balance has been transferred, except that any collection made by the General Accounting Office for other Government agencies may be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

Collections.

Accounting and reporting of withdrawals.

(d) The withdrawals made pursuant to subsection (a) (2) of this section shall be accounted for and reported as of the fiscal year in which the appropriations concerned expire for obligation. The withdrawals described in subsection (b) (2) of this section shall be accounted for and reported as of the fiscal year in which this Act is approved.

Payment of obligations.

SEC. 2. Each appropriation account established pursuant to this Act shall be accounted for as one fund and shall be available without fiscal year limitation for payment of obligations chargeable against any of the appropriations from which such account was derived. Subject to regulations to be prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, payment of such obligations may be made without prior action by the General Accounting Office, but nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to relieve the Comptroller General of the United

States of his duty to render decisions upon requests made pursuant to law or to abridge the existing authority of the General Accounting Office to settle and adjust claims, demands, and accounts.

SEC. 3. (a) Appropriation accounts established pursuant to this Act shall be reviewed periodically, but at least once each fiscal year, by each agency concerned. If the undisbursed balance in any account exceeds the obligated balance pertaining thereto, the amount of the excess shall be withdrawn in the manner provided by section 1 (a) (2) of this Act; but if the obligated balance exceeds the undisbursed balance, the amount of the excess, not to exceed the remaining unobligated balances of the appropriations available for the same general purposes, may be restored to such account. A review shall be made as of the close of each fiscal year and the restorations or withdrawals required or authorized by this section accomplished not later than September 30 of the following fiscal year, but the transactions shall be accounted for and reported as of the close of the fiscal year to which such review pertains. A review made as of any other date for which restorations or withdrawals are accomplished after September 30 in any fiscal year shall be accounted for and reported as transactions of the fiscal year in which accomplished: *Provided*, That prior to any restoration under this subsection the head of the agency concerned shall make such report with respect thereto as the Director of the Bureau of the Budget may require.

(b) In connection with his audit responsibilities, the Comptroller General of the United States shall report to the head of the agency concerned, to the Secretary of the Treasury, and to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, respecting operations under this Act, including an appraisal of the unliquidated obligations under the appropriation accounts established by this Act. Within thirty days after receipt of such report, the agency concerned shall accomplish any actions required by subsection (a) of this section which such report shows to be necessary.

SEC. 4. During the fiscal year in which this Act becomes effective, and under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, the obligated balance of the appropriation account for payment of certified claims established pursuant to section 2 of the Act of July 6, 1949 (63 Stat. 407; 31 U. S. C. 712b), shall be transferred to the related appropriation accounts established pursuant to this Act and the unobligated balance shall be withdrawn.

SEC. 5. The obligated balances of appropriations made available for obligation for definite periods of time under discontinued appropriation heads may, upon the expiration of the second full fiscal year following the fiscal year or years for which such appropriations are available for obligation, be merged in the appropriation accounts provided for by section 1 hereof, or in one or more other accounts to be established pursuant to this Act for discontinued appropriations of the agency or subdivision thereof currently responsible for the liquidation of the obligations.

SEC. 6. The unobligated balances of appropriations which are not limited to a definite period of time shall be withdrawn in the manner provided in section 1 (a) (2) of this Act whenever the head of the agency concerned shall determine that the purposes for which the appropriation was made has been fulfilled; or in any event, whenever disbursements have not been made against the appropriation for two full consecutive fiscal years: *Provided*, That amounts of appropriations not limited to a definite period of time which are withdrawn pursuant to this section or were heretofore withdrawn from the appropriation account by administrative action may be restored to the

Agency review.

GAO report to agency, Treasury, and Budget.

Certified claims.

Obligated balances for definite periods.

Unobligated balances. Unlimited periods.

applicable appropriation account for the payment of obligations and for the settlement of accounts.

**Repeals.**

SEC. 7. The following provisions of law are hereby repealed:

(a) The proviso under the heading "PAYMENT OF CERTIFIED CLAIMS" in the Act of April 25, 1945 (59 Stat. 90; 31 U. S. C. 690);

(b) Section 2 of the Act of July 6, 1949 (63 Stat. 407; 31 U. S. C. 712b), but the repeal of this section shall not be effective until June 30, 1957;

(c) The paragraph under the heading "PAYMENT OF CERTIFIED CLAIMS" in the Act of June 30, 1949 (63 Stat. 358; 31 U. S. C. 712c);

(d) Section 5 of the Act of March 3, 1875 (18 Stat. 418; 31 U. S. C. 713a); and

(e) Section 3691 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (31 U. S. C. 715).

(f) Any provisions (except those contained in appropriation Acts for the fiscal years 1956 and 1957) permitting an appropriation which is limited for obligation to a definite period of time to remain available for expenditure for more than the two succeeding full fiscal years, but this subsection shall not be effective until June 30, 1957.

**Nonapplicability.**

SEC. 8. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to the appropriations for the District of Columbia or appropriations to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

**Authorized exceptions.**

SEC. 9. The inclusion in appropriation Acts of provisions excepting any appropriation or appropriations from the operation of the provisions of this Act and fixing the period for which such appropriation or appropriations shall remain available for expenditure is hereby authorized.

Approved July 25, 1956.

Public Law 799

CHAPTER 728

AN ACT

July 25, 1956  
[H. R. 5853]

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine in the District of Columbia", approved February 1, 1907.

D. C. veterinary  
medicine.  
Change of re-  
quirements.  
D. C. Code 2-  
801.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the first section of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine in the District of Columbia", approved February 1, 1907 (34 Stat. 870; title 2, ch. 8, D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended (a) by striking from the first sentence thereof, the words "shall have been a bona fide resident of said District for three years last past before appointment, and each, during said period", and (b) by inserting before the period at the end of the first sentence the words "for a period of three years immediately prior to such appointment".

66 Stat. 824,  
D. C. Code title  
1 app.

SEC. 2. Where any provision of this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, refers to an office or agency abolished by Reorganization Plan Numbered 5 of 1952, such reference shall be deemed to be to the office, agency, or officer exercising the functions of the office or agency so abolished.

D. C. Code 2-  
803.

SEC. 3. Section 3 of the said Act of February 1, 1907, is amended (a) by striking "some veterinary college authorized by law to confer the same, which college shall require at least two sessions of study of veterinary medicine of not less than six months each prior to the issue of such diploma, and graduates of two-year colleges shall accompany their diplomas by satisfactory evidence that they have practiced