

SEC. 2. Any national forest lands which are transferred to a military department in accordance with this Act shall be thereafter subject only to the laws applicable to other lands within the military installation or other public works project for which such lands are required and any lands which are transferred to the Department of Agriculture in accordance with this Act shall become subject to the laws applicable to lands acquired under the Act of March 1, 1911 (36 Stat. 961), as amended.

Approved July 26, 1956.

Laws applicable.

16 USC 552.

Public Law 805

CHAPTER 737

AN ACT

To require periodic survey by the Secretary of Commerce of national shipbuilding capability.

July 26, 1956  
[S. 3705]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 502 (f) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence thereof and inserting in lieu thereof the following two new sentences: "The Secretary of Commerce, with the advice of and in coordination with the Secretary of the Navy, shall periodically, as required for purposes of this Act, survey the existing privately owned shipyards capable of merchant ship construction, or review available data on such shipyards if deemed adequate, to determine whether their capabilities for merchant ship construction, including facilities and skilled personnel, provide an adequate mobilization base at strategic points for purposes of national defense and national emergency. The Secretary of Commerce, in connection with ship construction, reconstruction, reconditioning, or remodeling under title VII and section 509, and the Federal Maritime Board, in connection with ship construction, reconstruction, or reconditioning under title V (except section 509), upon a basis of a finding that the award of the proposed construction, reconstruction, reconditioning, or remodeling work will remedy an existing inadequacy in such mobilization base as to the capabilities and capacities of a shipyard or shipyards at a strategic point, and after taking into consideration the benefits accruing from standardized construction, the conditions of unemployment, and the needs and reasonable requirements of all shipyards, may, with the approval of the President, allocate such construction, reconstruction, reconditioning, or remodeling to such yard or yards in such manner as it may be determined to be fair, just, and reasonable to all sections of the country, subject to the provisions of this subsection."

Shipbuilding,  
Capability sur-  
vey.  
52 Stat. 957.  
46 USC 1152.

46 USC 1191-  
1204, 1159, 1151-  
1161.

Approved July 26, 1956.

Public Law 806

CHAPTER 738

AN ACT

To provide for the disposal of the Government-owned synthetic rubber research laboratories at Akron, Ohio.

July 26, 1956  
[S. 3832]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Government laboratories at Akron, Ohio, now under control of the National Science Foundation are hereby transferred to the General Services

Rubber research  
laboratories,  
Akron, Ohio,  
Disposal.

63 Stat. 377.  
40 USC 471 note.

Administration for disposal in accordance with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, except that the Administrator of General Services shall first offer the laboratories for public sale before seeking to dispose of them by transfer or assignment to any Federal agency. The Administrator of General Services, before he offers the laboratories to the public for sale, shall ascertain what the value of the laboratories would be to Government agencies which would make substantial use thereof, and the Administrator shall not sell the laboratories to the public unless he finds, after consultation with the Director of the Budget Bureau, that such sale to the public would be in the best interests of the United States, taking into consideration among other relevant factors the value of the laboratories to any interested agency and the amounts offered by public bidders. The National Science Foundation is authorized to reimburse the General Services Administration in advance for expenses necessary for the protection and maintenance of the laboratories up to June 30, 1957.

Approved July 26, 1956.

Public Law 807

CHAPTER 739

AN ACT

July 26, 1956  
[H. R. 7723]

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands in Phelps County, Missouri, to the Chamber of Commerce of Rolla, Missouri.

Phelps County,  
Mo.  
Conveyance.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to convey to the Chamber of Commerce of Rolla, Missouri, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the following described lands, comprising a portion of a tract of land previously donated to the United States by such Chamber of Commerce in connection with the program of the Civilian Conservation Corps: Parcel of land in Phelps County, Missouri, described as the south half of lot 118 of the railroad addition to the town of Rolla, Missouri, being the same as the south half of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 10, township 37 north, range 8 west.

Reversion.

SEC. 2. The conveyance authorized by this Act shall provide that in the event that the lands cease to be used for public purposes all right, title, and interest therein shall immediately revert to and revest in the United States.

Approved July 26, 1956.

Public Law 808

CHAPTER 740

AN ACT

July 26, 1956  
[H. R. 9038]

To amend title 28 of the United States Code to provide that the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall be treated as a State for purposes of district court jurisdiction based on diversity of citizenship.

Puerto Rico.  
62 Stat. 930.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section 1332 (b) of title 28 of the United States Code is amended to read as follows: "(b) The word 'States', as used in this section, includes the Territories, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico."

Approved July 26, 1956.