

of the operation of this section, or until the expiration of a period of two years immediately following the effective date of such reduction in salary standing or immediately following the first day of such first pay period, as applicable, to receive the rate of basic salary to which he was entitled immediately prior to such reduction in salary standing (including each increase provided by law in such rate of basic salary) so long as he continues in the postal field service without any break in service of one workday or more and is not demoted or reassigned for personal cause, at his own request, or in a reduction in force due to lack of funds or curtailment of work.

“(c) The rate of basic salary to which such employee is entitled under subsection (b) of this section with respect to each reduction in salary standing to which this section applies shall be the lesser of the following:

“(A) the amount of the existing rate of basic salary of the employee immediately prior to the reduction in salary standing (including each increase provided by law in such rate); or

“(B) the amount of the rate of the salary level or salary range (including each increase provided by law in such rate) to which the employee is reduced, increased by 25 per centum.

“(d) The Postmaster General is authorized to issue regulations to carry out the purposes of this section.

“(e) (1) For the purposes of section 3559(a), the existing basic salary shall be the basic salary which the employee would have received except for the provisions of this section.

“(2) For the purposes of section 3544(h), the basic compensation earned shall be the basic compensation which the employee would have received except for the provisions of this section.

“(f) For the purposes of this section, the term ‘curtailment of work’ does not include—

“(1) reductions in class or gross receipts category of any post office, or

“(2) reductions in route mileage for rural carriers.”

#### CONFORMING AMENDMENT

SEC. 202. That part of the table of contents of chapter 45 of title 39 of the United States Code under the heading “SALARY STEPS AND PROMOTIONS” is amended by inserting

“3560. Salary protection.”

immediately below

“3559. Promotions.”

Approved September 21, 1961.

#### Public Law 87-271

#### AN ACT

To amend section 607(b) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended.

September 21, 1961  
[H. R. 6974]

Merchant Marine Act, 1936, amendment.

Reserve funds for research.  
66 Stat. 764.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the last sentence of section 607(b) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. 1177(b)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof a comma and the following: “and may also pay from such fund, with such consent and upon terms and conditions which the Secretary of Commerce shall by regulation prescribe to give priority to the foregoing purposes of the fund (and with respect to any transfer of funds from the special reserve fund, to give priority to

the purposes of that fund) and to carry out the purposes of this Act, (A) amounts contributed toward research, development, and design expenses incident to new and advanced ship design machinery and equipment", and

"(B) Amounts (1) for the purchase of cargo containers, delivered after June 30, 1959, of a type approved by the Administrator for use in connection with any of the contractor's subsidized vessels, (2) for the payment of the principal of any indebtedness incurred for such containers, or (3) to reimburse the contractor's general funds for expenditures for such purchases or payments. Such cargo containers to the extent paid for out of the capital reserve fund shall be treated as vessels for the purpose of deposits and withdrawals from the capital reserve fund under this section 607, and the regulations and closing agreements relating thereto, except that the depreciation on such cargo containers shall be based upon the life expectancy used for such containers in the determination of 'net earnings' under paragraph (d) (1) of this section 607."

Approved September 21, 1961.

49 Stat. 2005; 72  
Stat. 592.

## Public Law 87-272

### JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide for the observance of the centennial of the enactment of the Homestead Act.

September 22, 1961  
[S. J. Res. 98]

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President is requested (1) to issue a proclamation designating the calendar year 1962 as the centennial of the enactment of the Homestead Act, and calling upon the Governors of the States, mayors of cities, and other public officials, as well as other persons, organizations, and groups, particularly in the States most directly affected by the Homestead Act, to observe such centennial by appropriate celebrations and ceremonies; and (2) to provide, in such manner as he deems appropriate, for participation by Federal agencies and officials in such observance.*

Approved September 22, 1961.

Homestead Act  
Centennial, 1962.

12 Stat. 392.  
43 USC, ch. 7.

## Public Law 87-273

### AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act relative to employment for certain adult Indians on or near Indian reservations", approved August 3, 1956.

September 22, 1961  
[S. 200]

*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 entitled "An Act relative to employment for certain adult Indians on or near Indian reservations", approved August 3, 1956 (70 Stat. 986), is amended by striking out "\$3,500,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$7,500,000" and by striking out "\$500,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$1,000,000".*

Approved September 22, 1961.

Indians.  
Vocational training.  
Appropriation.  
25 USC 309a.