

within 60 days after the date the Director received notice of the final order or decision of the Board.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by subsection (a) take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply to any administrative or judicial proceeding pending on that date or commenced on or after that date.

**SEC. 9. EXTENSION OF JUDICIARY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND.**

Section 612 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “equipment” each place it appears and inserting “resources”;

(2) by striking subsection (f) and redesignating subsequent subsections accordingly;

(3) in subsection (g), as so redesignated, by striking paragraph (3); and

(4) in subsection (i), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking “Judiciary” each place it appears and inserting “judiciary”;

(B) by striking “subparagraph (c)(1)(B)” and inserting “subsection (c)(1)(B)”;

(C) by striking “under (c)(1)(B)” and inserting “under subsection (c)(1)(B)”.

**SEC. 10. OFFSETTING RECEIPTS.**

For fiscal year 1999 and thereafter, any portion of miscellaneous fees collected as prescribed by the Judicial Conference of the United States pursuant to sections 1913, 1914(b), 1926(a), 1930(b), and 1932 of title 28, United States Code, exceeding the amount of such fees in effect on September 30, 1998, shall be deposited into the special fund of the Treasury established under section 1931 of title 28, United States Code.

**SEC. 11. MEMBERSHIP IN CIRCUIT JUDICIAL COUNCILS.**

Section 332(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) The chief judge of each judicial circuit shall call and preside at a meeting of the judicial council of the circuit at least twice in each year and at such places as he or she may designate. The council shall consist of an equal number of circuit judges (including the chief judge of the circuit) and district judges, as such number is determined by majority vote of all such judges of the circuit in regular active service.”;

(2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) Except for the chief judge of the circuit, either judges in regular active service or judges retired from regular active service under section 371(b) of this title may serve as members of the council.”; and

(3) by striking “retirement,” in paragraph (5) and inserting “retirement under section 371(a) or section 372(a) of this title.”.

**SEC. 12. SUNSET OF CIVIL JUSTICE EXPENSE AND DELAY REDUCTION PLANS.**

Section 103(b)(2)(A) of the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-650; 104 Stat. 5096; 28 U.S.C. 471 note), as amended by Public Law 105-53 (111 Stat. 1173), is amended by inserting “471,” after “sections”.

**SEC. 13. CREATION OF CERTIFYING OFFICERS IN THE JUDICIAL BRANCH.**

(a) **APPOINTMENT OF DISBURSING AND CERTIFYING OFFICERS.**—Chapter 41 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**“§ 613. Disbursing and certifying officers**

“(a) **DISBURSING OFFICERS.**—The Director may designate in writing officers and employees of the judicial branch of the Government, including the courts as defined in section 610 other than the Supreme Court, to be disbursing officers in such numbers and locations as the Director considers necessary. Such disbursing officers shall—

“(1) disburse moneys appropriated to the judicial branch and other funds only in strict

accordance with payment requests certified by the Director or in accordance with subsection (b);

“(2) examine payment requests as necessary to ascertain whether they are in proper form, certified, and approved; and

“(3) be held accountable for their actions as provided by law, except that such a disbursing officer shall not be held accountable or responsible for any illegal, improper, or incorrect payment resulting from any false, inaccurate, or misleading certificate for which a certifying officer is responsible under subsection (b).

“(b) **CERTIFYING OFFICERS.**—(1) The Director may designate in writing officers and employees of the judicial branch of the Government, including the courts as defined in section 610 other than the Supreme Court, to certify payment requests payable from appropriations and funds. Such certifying officers shall be responsible and accountable for—

“(A) the existence and correctness of the facts recited in the certificate or other request for payment or its supporting papers;

“(B) the legality of the proposed payment under the appropriation or fund involved; and

“(C) the correctness of the computations of certified payment requests.

“(2) The liability of a certifying officer shall be enforced in the same manner and to the same extent as provided by law with respect to the enforcement of the liability of disbursing and other accountable officers. A certifying officer shall be required to make restitution to the United States for the amount of any illegal, improper, or incorrect payment resulting from any false, inaccurate, or misleading certificates made by the certifying officer, as well as for any payment prohibited by law or which did not represent a legal obligation under the appropriation or fund involved.

“(c) **RIGHTS.**—A certifying or disbursing officer—

“(1) has the right to apply for and obtain a decision by the Comptroller General on any question of law involved in a payment request presented for certification; and

“(2) is entitled to relief from liability arising under this section in accordance with title 31, United States Code.

“(d) **OTHER AUTHORITY NOT AFFECTED.**—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the courts with respect to moneys deposited with the courts under chapter 129 of this title.”.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for chapter 41 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following item:

“613. Disbursing and certifying officers.”.

(c) **DUTIES OF DIRECTOR.**—Paragraph (8) of subsection (a) of section 604 of title 28, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(8) Disburse appropriations and other funds for the maintenance and operation of the courts;”.

**SEC. 14. LIMITATION ON PRISONER RELEASE ORDERS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 99 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**“§ 1632. Limitation on prisoner release orders**

“(a) **LIMITATION.**—Notwithstanding section 3626(a)(3) of title 18 or any other provision of law, in a civil action with respect to prison conditions, no court of the United States or other court listed in section 610 shall have jurisdiction to enter or carry out any prisoner release order that would result in the release from or nonadmission to a prison, on the basis of prison conditions, of any person subject to incarceration, detention, or ad-

mission to a facility because of a conviction of a felony under the laws of the relevant jurisdiction, or a violation of the terms or conditions of parole, probation, pretrial release, or a diversionary program, relating to the commission of a felony under the laws of the relevant jurisdiction.

“(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—As used in this section—

“(1) the terms ‘civil action with respect to prison conditions’, ‘prisoner’, ‘prisoner release order’, and ‘prison’ have the meanings given those terms in section 3626(g) of title 18; and

“(2) the term ‘prison conditions’ means conditions of confinement or the effects of actions by government officials on the lives of persons confined in prison.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for chapter 99 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1632. Limitation on prisoner release orders.”.

(c) **CONSENT DECREES.**—

(1) **TERMINATION OF EXISTING CONSENT DECREES.**—Any consent decree that was entered into before the date of the enactment of the Prison Litigation Reform Act of 1995, that is in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, and that provides for remedies relating to prison conditions shall cease to be effective on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) **DEFINITIONS.**—As used in this subsection—

(A) the term “consent decree” has the meaning given that term in section 3626(g) of title 18, United States Code; and

(B) the term “prison conditions” has the meaning given that term in section 1632(c) of title 28, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read a third time by title.

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House pass said bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SNOWBARGER, announced that the yeas had it.

So the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby said bill was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said bill.

**§33.18 CLERK TO CORRECT ENGROSSMENT**

On motion of Mr. CANADY, by unanimous consent,

*Ordered*, That in the engrossment of the foregoing bill the Clerk be authorized to correct section numbers, cross references, and punctuation, and to make such stylistic, clerical, technical, conforming, and other changes as may be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill.

**§33.19 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS**

On motion of Mr. LIVINGSTON, by unanimous consent, the bill (H.R. 3579) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes; together with the amendment of the Senate thereto, was taken from the Speaker's table.

When on motion of Mr. LIVINGSTON, it was,

*Resolved*, That the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate and