Public Law 105–263
105th Congress

An Act

To provide for the orderly disposal of certain Federal lands in Clark County, Nevada, and to provide for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands in the State of Nevada.

Oct. 19, 1998
[H.R. 449]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998.
31 USC 6901 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) The Bureau of Land Management has extensive land ownership in small and large parcels interspersed with or adjacent to private land in the Las Vegas Valley, Nevada, making many of these parcels difficult to manage and more appropriate for disposal.

(2) In order to promote responsible and orderly development in the Las Vegas Valley, certain of those Federal lands should be sold by the Federal Government based on recommendations made by local government and the public.

(3) The Las Vegas metropolitan area is the fastest growing urban area in the United States, which is causing significant impacts upon the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, and the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area, which surround the Las Vegas Valley.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide for the orderly disposal of certain Federal lands in Clark County, Nevada, and to provide for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands in the State of Nevada.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(1) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) The term "unit of local government" means Clark County, the City of Las Vegas, the City of North Las Vegas, or the City of Henderson; all in the State of Nevada.

(3) The term "Agreement" means the agreement entitled "The Interim Cooperative Management Agreement Between The United States Department of the Interior—Bureau of Land Management and Clark County", dated November 4, 1992.

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(4) The term "special account" means the account in the Treasury of the United States established under section 4(e)(1)(C).

(5) The term "Recreation and Public Purposes Act" means the Act entitled "An Act to authorize acquisition or use of public lands by States, counties, or municipalities for recreational purposes", approved June 14, 1926 (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.).

(6) The term "regional governmental entity" means the Southern Nevada Water Authority, the Regional Flood Control District, and the Clark County Sanitation District.

SEC. 4. DISPOSAL AND EXCHANGE.

(a) DISPOSAL.—Notwithstanding the land use planning requirements contained in sections 202 and 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1711 and 1712), the Secretary, in accordance with this Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and other applicable law, and subject to valid existing rights, is authorized to dispose of lands within the boundary of the area under the jurisdiction of the Director of the Bureau of Land Management in Clark County, Nevada, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Las Vegas Valley, Nevada, Land Disposal Map", dated April 10, 1997. Such map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Director and the Las Vegas District of the Bureau of Land Management.

(b) RESERVATION FOR LOCAL PUBLIC PURPOSES.—

(1) RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSE ACT CONVEYANCES.—Not less than 30 days before the offering of lands for sale or exchange pursuant to subsection (a), the State of Nevada or the unit of local government in whose jurisdiction the lands are located may elect to obtain any such lands for local public purposes pursuant to the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Pursuant to any such election, the Secretary shall retain the elected lands for conveyance to the State of Nevada or such unit of the local government in accordance with the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.

(2) RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

(A) ISSUANCE.—Upon application, by a unit of local government or regional governmental entity, the Secretary, in accordance with this Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and other applicable provisions of law, shall issue right-of-way grants on Federal lands in Clark County, Nevada, for all reservoirs, canals, channels, ditches, pipes, pipelines, tunnels, and other facilities and systems needed for—

(i) the impoundment, storage, treatment, transportation, or distribution of water (other than water from the Virgin River) or wastewater; or

(ii) flood control management.

(B) DURATION.—Right-of-way grants issued under this paragraph shall be valid in perpetuity.

(C) WAIVER OF FEES.—Right-of-way grants issued under this paragraph shall not require the payment of rental or cost recovery fees.

(3) YOUTH ACTIVITY FACILITIES.—Within 30 days after a request by Clark County, Nevada, the Secretary shall offer to Clark County, Nevada, the land depicted on the map entitled "Vicinity Map Parcel 177–28–101–020 dated August 14, 1996, in accordance with the Recreation and Public Purposes Act for the construction of youth activity facilities.

(c) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, all Federal lands identified in subsection (a) for disposal are withdrawn from location and entry, under the mining laws and from operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws until such time as the Secretary terminates the withdrawal or the lands are patented.

(d) SELECTION.—

(1) JOINT SELECTION REQUIRED.—The Secretary and the unit of local government in whose jurisdiction lands referred to in subsection (a) are located shall jointly select lands to be offered for sale or exchange under this section. The Secretary shall coordinate land disposal activities with the unit of local government in whose jurisdiction such lands are located. Land disposal activities of the Secretary shall be consistent with local land use planning and zoning requirements and recommendations.

(2) OFFERING.—After land has been selected in accordance with this subsection, the Secretary shall make the first offering of land as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—

(1) LAND SALES.—Of the gross proceeds of sales of land under this subsection in a fiscal year—

(A) 5 percent shall be paid directly to the State of Nevada for use in the general education program of the State;

(B) 10 percent shall be paid directly to the Southern Nevada Water Authority for water treatment and transmission facility infrastructure in Clark County, Nevada; and

(C) the remainder shall be deposited in a special account in the Treasury of the United States for use pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (3).

Amounts in the special account shall be available to the Secretary without further appropriation and shall remain available until expended.

(2) LAND EXCHANGES.—

(A) PAYMENTS.—In the case of a land exchange under this section, the non-Federal party shall provide direct payments to the State of Nevada and the Southern Nevada Water Authority in accordance with paragraphs (1)(A) and (B). The payments shall be based on the fair market value of the Federal lands to be conveyed in the exchange and shall be considered a cost incurred by the non-Federal party that shall be compensated by the Secretary if so provided by any agreement to initiate exchange.

(B) PENDING EXCHANGES.—The provisions of this Act, except this subsection and subsections (a) and (b), shall not apply to any land exchange for which an initial agreement to initiate an exchange was signed by an authorized

representative of the exchange proponent and an authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management prior to February 29, 1996.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF SPECIAL ACCOUNT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts deposited in the special account may be expended by the Secretary for—

(i) the acquisition of environmentally sensitive land in the State of Nevada in accordance with subsection (h), with priority given to lands located within Clark County;

(ii) capital improvements at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, the Desert National Wildlife Refuge, the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area and other areas administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Clark County, and the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area;

(iii) development of a multispecies habitat conservation plan in Clark County, Nevada;

(iv) development of parks, trails, and natural areas in Clark County, Nevada, pursuant to a cooperative agreement with a unit of local government; and

(v) reimbursement of costs incurred by the local offices of the Bureau of Land Management in arranging sales or exchanges under this Act.

(B) PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall coordinate the use of the special account with the Secretary of Agriculture, the State of Nevada, local governments, and other interested persons, to ensure accountability and demonstrated results.

(C) LIMITATION.—Not more than 25 percent of the amounts available to the Secretary from the special account in any fiscal year (determined without taking into account amounts deposited under subsection (g)(4)) may be used in any fiscal year for the purposes described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

(f) INVESTMENT OF SPECIAL ACCOUNT.—All funds deposited as principal in the special account shall earn interest in the amount determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on the basis of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturities. Such interest shall be added to the principal of the account and expended according to the provisions of subsection (e)(3).

(g) AIRPORT ENVIRONS OVERLAY DISTRICT LAND TRANSFER.—Upon request of Clark County, Nevada, the Secretary shall transfer to Clark County, Nevada, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the lands identified in the Agreement, subject to the following:

(1) Valid existing rights.

(2) Clark County agrees to manage such lands in accordance with the Agreement and with section 47504 of title 49, United States Code (relating to airport noise compatibility planning), and regulations promulgated pursuant to that section.

(3) Clark County agrees that if any of such lands are sold, leased, or otherwise conveyed or leased by Clark County, such sale, lease, or other conveyance shall contain a limitation which requires uses compatible with the Agreement and such Airport Noise Compatibility Planning provisions.

(4) Clark County agrees that if any of such lands are sold, leased, or otherwise conveyed by Clark County, such lands shall be sold, leased, or otherwise conveyed for fair market value. Clark County shall contribute 85 percent of the gross proceeds from the sale, lease, or other conveyance of such lands directly to the special account. If any of such lands sold, leased, or otherwise conveyed by Clark County are identified on the map referenced in section 2(a) of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the orderly disposal of certain Federal lands in Nevada and for the acquisition of certain other lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin, and for other purposes", approved December 23, 1980 (94 Stat. 3381; commonly known as the "Santini-Burton Act"), the proceeds contributed to the special account by Clark County from the sale, lease, or other conveyance of such lands shall be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to acquire environmentally sensitive land in the Lake Tahoe Basin pursuant to section 3 of the Santini-Burton Act. Clark County shall contribute 5 percent of the gross proceeds from the sale, lease, or other conveyance of such lands directly to the State of Nevada for use in the general education program of the State, and the remainder shall be available for use by the Clark County Department of Aviation for the benefit of airport development and the Noise Compatibility Program.

3C. 5. ACQUISITIONS.

(a) ACQUISITIONS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term "environmentally sensitive land" means land or an interest in land, the acquisition of which the United States would, in the judgment of the Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture—

(A) promote the preservation of natural, scientific, aesthetic, historical, cultural, watershed, wildlife, and other values contributing to public enjoyment and biological diversity;

(B) enhance recreational opportunities and public access;

(C) provide the opportunity to achieve better management of public land through consolidation of Federal ownership; or

(D) otherwise serve the public interest.

(2) IN GENERAL.—After the consultation process has been completed in accordance with paragraph (3), the Secretary may acquire with the proceeds of the special account environmentally sensitive land and interests in environmentally sensitive land. Lands may not be acquired under this section without the consent of the owner thereof. Funds made available from the special account may be used with any other funds made available under any other provision of law.

(3) CONSULTATION.—Before initiating efforts to acquire land under this subsection, the Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture shall consult with the State of Nevada and with local government within whose jurisdiction the lands are located, including appropriate planning and regulatory agencies, and with other interested persons, concerning the necessity of making the acquisition, the potential impacts on State and local government, and other appropriate aspects of the acquisition.

Consultation under this paragraph is in addition to any other consultation required by law.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—On acceptance of title by the United States, land and interests in land acquired under this section that is within the boundaries of a unit of the National Forest System, National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, National Wilderness Preservation System, any other system established by Act of Congress, or any national conservation or national recreation area established by Act of Congress—

(1) shall become part of the unit or area without further action by the Secretary or Secretary of Agriculture; and

(2) shall be managed in accordance with all laws and regulations and land use plans applicable to the unit or area.

(c) DETERMINATION OF FAIR MARKET VALUE.—The fair market value of land or an interest in land to be acquired by the Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture under this section shall be determined pursuant to section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and shall be consistent with other applicable requirements and standards. Fair market value shall be determined without regard to the presence of a species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

(d) PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES.—Section 6901(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) By striking "or" at the end of subparagraph (F).

(2) By striking the period at the end of subparagraph (G) and inserting "; or".

(3) By adding at the end the following:

"(H) acquired by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture under section 5 of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 that is not otherwise described in subparagraphs (A) through (G).".

SEC. 6. REPORT.

The Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives an annual report on all transactions under this Act.

SEC. 7. RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT.

(a) TRANSFER OF REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon request by a grantee of lands within Clark County, Nevada, that are subject to a lease or patent issued under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, the Secretary may transfer the reversionary interest in such lands to other non-Federal lands. The transfer of the reversionary interest shall only be made to lands of equal value, except that with respect to the State of Nevada or a unit of local government an amount equal to the excess (if any) of the fair market value of lands received by the unit of local government over the fair market value of lands transferred by the unit of local government shall be paid to the Secretary and shall be treated under subsection (e)(1) of section 4 as proceeds from the sale of land. For purposes of this subsection, the fair market value of lands to be transferred by the State of

Nevada or a unit of local government may be based upon a statement of value prepared by a qualified appraiser.

(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO LANDS ACQUIRED.—Land selected under this subsection by a grantee described in paragraph (1) shall be subject to the terms and conditions, uses, and acreage limitations of the lease or patent to which the lands transferred by the grantee were subject, including the reverter provisions, under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.

(b) AFFORDABLE HOUSING.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, may make available, in accordance with section 203 of the Federal Land Planning and Management Act of 1976, land in the State of Nevada at less than fair market value and under other such terms and conditions as he may determine for affordable housing purposes. Such lands shall be made available only to State or local governmental entities, including local public housing authorities. For the purposes of this subsection, housing shall be considered to be affordable housing if the housing serves low-income families as defined in section 104 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12704).

SEC. 8. BOUNDARY MODIFICATION OF RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA.

Section 3(a)(2) of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Establishment Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 460ccc–1(a)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

"(2) The conservation area shall consist of approximately 195,780 acres as generally depicted on the map entitled 'Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Administrative Boundary Modification', dated August 8, 1996.".

Approved October 19, 1998.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 449:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 105–68 (Comm. on Resources).
SENATE REPORTS: No. 105–291 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 143 (1997): Apr. 23, considered and passed House.
Vol. 144 (1998): Oct. 2, considered and passed Senate.

Consultation under this paragraph is in addition to any other consultation required by law.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—On acceptance of title by the United States, land and interests in land acquired under this section that is within the boundaries of a unit of the National Forest System, National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, National Wilderness Preservation System, any other system established by Act of Congress, or any national conservation or national recreation area established by Act of Congress—

(1) shall become part of the unit or area without further action by the Secretary or Secretary of Agriculture; and

(2) shall be managed in accordance with all laws and regulations and land use plans applicable to the unit or area.

(c) DETERMINATION OF FAIR MARKET VALUE.—The fair market value of land or an interest in land to be acquired by the Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture under this section shall be determined pursuant to section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and shall be consistent with other applicable requirements and standards. Fair market value shall be determined without regard to the presence of a species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 143 (1997): Apr. 23, considered and passed House.
Vol. 144 (1998): Oct. 2, considered and passed Senate.

Public Law 105–264
105th Congress

An Act

Oct. 19, 1998
[H.R. 930]

To require Federal employees to use Federal travel charge cards for all payments of expenses of official Government travel, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish requirements for prepayment audits of Federal agency transportation expenses, to authorize reimbursement of Federal agency employees for taxes incurred on travel or transportation reimbursements, and to authorize test programs for the payment of Federal employee travel expenses and relocation expenses.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998.
5 USC 5701 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998".

5 USC 5701 note.

SEC. 2. REQUIRING USE OF THE TRAVEL CHARGE CARD.

Regulations.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations issued by the Administrator of General Services after consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Administrator shall require that Federal employees use the travel charge card established pursuant to the United States Travel and Transportation Payment and Expense Control System, or any Federal contractor-issued travel charge card, for all payments of expenses of official Government travel. The Administrator shall exempt any payment, person, type or class of payments, or type or class of personnel from any requirement established under the preceding sentence in any case in which—

(1) it is in the best interest of the United States to do so;

(2) payment through a travel charge card is impractical or imposes unreasonable burdens or costs on Federal employees or Federal agencies; or

(3) the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of Transportation (with respect to the Coast Guard) requests an exemption with respect to the members of the uniformed services.

(b) AGENCY EXEMPTION.—The head of a Federal agency or the designee of such head may exempt any payment, person, type or class of payments, or type or class of agency personnel from subsection (a) if the agency head or the designee determines the exemption to be necessary in the interest of the agency. Not later than 30 days after granting such an exemption, the head of such agency or the designee shall notify the Administrator of General Services in writing of such exemption stating the reasons for the exemption.

Deadline.
Notification.

(c) LIMITATION ON RESTRICTION ON DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1113 of the Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 3413) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(q) Nothing in this title shall apply to the disclosure of any financial record or information to a Government authority in conjunction with a Federal contractor-issued travel charge card issued for official Government travel.".

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) is effective as of October 1, 1983, and applies to any records created pursuant to the United States Travel and Transportation Payment and Expense Control System or any Federal contractor-issued travel charge card issued for official Government travel.

Applicability.
Records.

(d) COLLECTION OF AMOUNTS OWED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations issued by the Administrator of General Services and upon written request of a Federal contractor, the head of any Federal agency or a disbursing official of the United States may, on behalf of the contractor, collect by deduction from the amount of pay owed to an employee of the agency any amount of funds the employee owes to the contractor as a result of delinquencies not disputed by the employee on a travel charge card issued for payment of expenses incurred in connection with official Government travel. The amount deducted from the pay owed to an employee with respect to a pay period may not exceed 15 percent of the disposable pay of the employee for that pay period, except that a greater percentage may be deducted upon the written consent of the employee.

Regulations.

(2) DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS.—Collection under this subsection shall be carried out in accordance with procedures substantially equivalent to the procedures required under section 3716(a) of title 31, United States Code.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this subsection:

(A) AGENCY.—The term "agency" has the meaning that term has under section 101 of title 31, United States Code.

(B) EMPLOYEE.—The term "employee" means an individual employed in or under an agency, including a member of any of the uniformed services. For purposes of this subsection, a member of one of the uniformed services is an employee of that uniformed service.

(C) MEMBER; UNIFORMED SERVICE.—Each of the terms "member" and "uniformed service" has the meaning that term has in section 101 of title 37, United States Code.

(e) REGULATIONS.—Within 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall promulgate regulations implementing this section, that—

Deadline.

(1) make the use of the travel charge card established pursuant to the United States Travel and Transportation System and Expense Control System, or any Federal contractor-issued travel charge card, mandatory for all payments of expenses of official Government travel pursuant to this section;

(2) specify the procedures for effecting under subsection (d) a deduction from pay owed to an employee, and ensure that the due process protections provided to employees under such procedures are no less than the protections provided to employees pursuant to section 3716 of title 31, United States Code;

(3) provide that any deduction under subsection (d) from pay owed to an employee may occur only after reimbursement of the employee for the expenses of Government travel with respect to which the deduction is made; and

(4) require agencies to promptly reimburse employees for expenses charged on a travel charge card pursuant to this section, and by no later than 30 days after the submission of a claim for reimbursement.

(f) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of General Services shall submit 2 reports to the Congress on agency compliance with this section and regulations that have been issued under this section.

Deadlines.

(2) TIMING.—The first report under this subsection shall be submitted before the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, and the second report shall be submitted after that period and before the end of the 540-day period beginning on that date of enactment.

(3) PREPARATION.—Each report shall be based on a sampling survey of agencies that expended more than $5,000,000 during the previous fiscal year on travel and transportation payments, including payments for employee relocation. The head of an agency shall provide to the Administrator the necessary information in a format prescribed by the Administrator and approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Regulations.

(g) REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES.—In accordance with regulations prescribed by the Administrator of General Services, the head of an agency shall ensure that the agency reimburses an employee who submits a proper voucher for allowable travel expenses in accordance with applicable travel regulations within 30 days after submission of the voucher. If an agency fails to reimburse an employee who has submitted a proper voucher within 30 days after submission of the voucher, the agency shall pay the employee a late payment fee as prescribed by the Administrator.

SEC. 3. PREPAYMENT AUDITS OF TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Section 3322 of title 31, United States Code, is amended in subsection (c) by inserting after "classifications" the following: "if the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government".

(2) Section 3528 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a) by striking "and" after the semicolon at the end of paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end of subsection (a)(4)(C) and inserting "; and", and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) verifying transportation rates, freight classifications, and other information provided on a Government bill of lading or transportation request, unless the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government.";

(B) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting after "deductions" the following: "and the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government"; and

(C) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting after "agreement" the following: "and the Administrator of General Services has determined that verification by a prepayment audit conducted pursuant to section 3726(a) of this title for a particular mode or modes of transportation, or for an agency or subagency, will not adequately protect the interests of the Government".

(3) Section 3726 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a)(1) Each agency that receives a bill from a carrier or freight forwarder for transporting an individual or property for the United States Government shall verify its correctness (to include transportation rates, freight classifications, or proper combinations thereof), using prepayment audit, prior to payment in accordance with the requirements of this section and regulations prescribed by the Administrator of General Services. Regulations.

"(2) The Administrator of General Services may exempt bills, a particular mode or modes of transportation, or an agency or subagency from a prepayment audit and verification and in lieu thereof require a postpayment audit, based on cost effectiveness, public interest, or other factors the Administrator considers appropriate.

"(3) Expenses for prepayment audits shall be funded by the agency's appropriations used for the transportation services.

"(4) The audit authority provided to agencies by this section is subject to oversight by the Administrator.";

(B) by redesignating subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i), respectively;

(C) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsections:

"(b) The Administrator may conduct pre- or post-payment audits of transportation bills of any Federal agency. The number and types of bills audited shall be based on the Administrator's judgment.

"(c)(1) The Administrator shall adjudicate transportation claims which cannot be resolved by the agency procuring the transportation services, or the carrier or freight-forwarder presenting the bill.

"(2) A claim under this section shall be allowed only if it is received by the Administrator not later than 3 years (excluding time of war) after the later of the following dates:

"(A) The date of accrual of the claim.

"(B) The date payment for the transportation is made.

"(C) The date a refund for an overpayment for the transportation is made.

"(D) The date a deduction under subsection (d) of this section is made.";

(D) in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by striking "subsection (c)" and inserting "subsection (e)", and by adding at the end the following new sentence: "This reporting requirement expires December 31, 1998."; Expiration date.

(E) in subsection (i)(1), as so redesignated, by striking "subsection (a)" and inserting "subsection (c)"; and

(F) by adding after subsection (i), as so redesignated, the following new subsection:

"(j) The Administrator of General Services may provide transportation audit and related technical assistance services, on a reimbursable basis, to any other agency. Such reimbursements may be credited to the appropriate revolving fund or appropriation from which the expenses were incurred.".

31 USC 3322 note.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall become effective 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. REIMBURSEMENT FOR TAXES ON MONEY RECEIVED FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5706b the following new section:

"§ 5706c. Reimbursement for taxes incurred on money received for travel expenses

"(a) Under regulations prescribed pursuant to section 5707 of this title, the head of an agency or department, or his or her designee, may use appropriations or other funds available to the agency for administrative expenses, for the reimbursement of Federal, State, and local income taxes incurred by an employee of the agency or by an employee and such employee's spouse (if filing jointly), for any travel or transportation reimbursement made to an employee for which reimbursement or an allowance is provided.

"(b) Reimbursements under this section shall include an amount equal to all income taxes for which the employee and spouse, as the case may be, would be liable due to the reimbursement for the taxes referred to in subsection (a). In addition, reimbursements under this section shall include penalties and interest, for the tax years 1993 and 1994 only, as a result of agencies failing to withhold the appropriate amounts for tax liabilities of employees affected by the change in the deductibility of travel expenses made by Public Law 102–486.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 5706b the following new item:

"5706c. Reimbursement for taxes incurred on money received for travel expenses.".

5 USC 5706c note.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall be effective as of January 1, 1993.

SEC. 5. AUTHORITY FOR TEST PROGRAMS.

(a) TRAVEL EXPENSES TEST PROGRAMS.—Subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 5710. Authority for travel expenses test programs

"(a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, under a test program which the Administrator of General Services determines to be in the interest of the Government and approves, an agency may pay through the proper disbursing official for a period not to exceed 24 months any necessary travel expenses in lieu of any payment otherwise authorized or required under this subchapter. An agency shall include in any request to the Administrator for approval of such a test program an analysis

of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

"(2) Any test program conducted under this section shall be designed to enhance cost savings or other efficiencies that accrue to the Government.

"(3) Nothing in this section is intended to limit the authority of any agency to conduct test programs.

"(b) The Administrator shall transmit a copy of any test program approved by the Administrator under this section to the appropriate committees of the Congress at least 30 days before the effective date of the program.

"(c) An agency authorized to conduct a test program under subsection (a) shall provide to the Administrator and the appropriate committees of the Congress a report on the results of the program no later than 3 months after completion of the program. Reports. Deadline.

"(d) No more than 10 test programs under this section may be conducted simultaneously.

"(e) The authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998.". Expiration date.

(b) RELOCATION EXPENSES TEST PROGRAMS.—Subchapter II of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 5739. Authority for relocation expenses test programs

"(a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, under a test program which the Administrator of General Services determines to be in the interest of the Government and approves, an agency may pay through the proper disbursing official for a period not to exceed 24 months any necessary relocation expenses in lieu of any payment otherwise authorized or required under this subchapter. An agency shall include in any request to the Administrator for approval of such a test program an analysis of the expected costs and benefits and a set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

"(2) Any test program conducted under this section shall be designed to enhance cost savings or other efficiencies that accrue to the Government.

"(3) Nothing in this section is intended to limit the authority of any agency to conduct test programs.

"(b) The Administrator shall transmit a copy of any test program approved by the Administrator under this section to the appropriate committees of the Congress at least 30 days before the effective date of the program.

"(c) An agency authorized to conduct a test program under subsection (a) shall provide to the Administrator and the appropriate committees of the Congress a report on the results of the program no later than 3 months after completion of the program. Reports. Deadline.

"(d) No more than 10 test programs under this section may be conducted simultaneously.

"(e) The authority to conduct test programs under this section shall expire 7 years after the date of the enactment of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998.". Expiration date.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections for chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is further amended by—