Public Law 270  CHAPTER 484  
**AN ACT**

To amend the Act of June 30, 1948, so as to extend for one year the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for certain public lands in Monroe County, Michigan, held under color of title.

> Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for lands held under color of title", approved June 30, 1948 (Public Law 856, Eightieth Congress), is amended by striking out "within five years after passage of this Act" and inserting in lieu thereof "within six years after passage of this Act".

Sec. 2. The amendment made by the first section of this Act to such Act of June 30, 1948, shall take effect as of June 29, 1953.

Approved August 14, 1953.

Public Law 271  CHAPTER 485  
**AN ACT**

To amend the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 with respect to preference accorded in Federal employment to disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

> Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) section 3 of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. In all examinations to determine the qualifications of applicants for entrance into the service ten points shall be added to the earned ratings of those persons included under section 2 (1), (2), (3), and (5), and five points shall be added to the earned ratings of those persons included under section 2 (4) and (6), who have received a passing grade. In examinations for positions of guards, elevator operators, messengers, and custodians, and in examinations held prior to December 31, 1954, for positions of apprentices, competition shall be restricted to persons entitled to preference under this Act as long as persons entitled to preference are available. In examinations for such other positions as may from time to time be determined by the President, competition shall be restricted, during the period beginning with the effective date of this Act and ending with the expiration of the authority to induct persons into the Armed Forces under the Universal Military Training and Service Act, as amended, to persons entitled to preference under this Act."

(b) Section 7 of such Act, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 7. The names of preference eligibles who have received a passing grade shall be entered on the appropriate registers or lists of eligibles in accordance with their respective augmented ratings, and the name of a preference eligible shall be entered ahead of all others having the same rating: Provided, That except for positions in the professional and scientific services in grade 9 or higher of the General Schedule of the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, the names of all qualified preference eligibles who have a compensable service-connected disability of 10 per centum or more, and who are entitled to ten points in addition to their earned ratings, shall be placed at the top of the appropriate civil-service register or employment list, in accordance with their respective augmented ratings."
Sec. 2. The first proviso in section 8 of the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 is amended by striking out the word "considered" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "shall be complied with".

Sec. 3. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to take away from any preference eligible who files an application before the date on which this Act takes effect any preference in connection with such application which he would have been entitled to under provisions of law in effect immediately prior to such date.

Sec. 4. This Act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after the date of its enactment.

Approved August 14, 1953.

Public Law 272—AUG. 14, 1953

To amend the charter of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America so as to limit membership on the National Council of Girl Scouts to citizens of the United States, to authorize meetings of the national council as provided in the constitution, and to authorize an annual report based upon the preceding fiscal year.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That sections 4 and 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, and for other purposes", approved March 16, 1950, are hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 4. There shall be a National Council of Girl Scouts (hereinafter referred to as the 'national council'), which shall have power to make and amend a constitution and bylaws, and to elect a board of directors, and officers and agents. The number, qualifications, and terms of office of members of the national council shall be prescribed by the constitution, except that they shall be citizens of the United States. The constitution may prescribe the number of members of the national council necessary to constitute a quorum, which number may be less than a majority of the whole number. The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a board of directors, except that the bylaws may provide for an executive committee to exercise the powers of the board of directors in the interim between its meetings, and for other committees to operate under the general supervision of the board of directors. The number, qualifications, and terms of office of members of the board of directors shall be prescribed by the constitution. The constitution may prescribe the number of members of the board of directors necessary to constitute a quorum which number shall not be less than twenty, or two-fifths of the whole number. The board of directors, to the extent provided in the constitution and bylaws, shall have the powers of the national council, in the interim between its meetings. The national council, or between meetings thereof, the board of directors, may authorize and cause to be executed leases, mortgages, and liens upon, and sales and conveyances of, any of the property of the corporation; and the proceeds arising therefrom shall be applied or invested for the use and benefit of the corporation.

"Sec. 5. Meetings of the national council shall be held as provided in the constitution, for elections, and to receive the reports of the officers and board of directors. Special meetings may be called as prescribed in the constitution. The national council and the board of directors shall have power to hold meetings and keep the seal, books, documents, and papers of the corporation within or without the District of Columbia."