Public Law 701

AN ACT

To amend title VII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, to provide for experimental operation and testing of vessels owned by the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That title VII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U. S. C., secs. 1191-1204), is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section to read as follows:

"Sec. 715. The Secretary of Commerce, for the purpose of practical development, trial, and testing, is authorized without regard to other provisions of this title or other laws relating to chartering and general agency operations, to operate, under general agency agreements or bareboat charter, vessels owned by the United States (including any national defense reserve vessel) which have been constructed, reconditioned, or remodeled for experimental or testing purposes, in the foreign or domestic trade of the United States or for use for the account of any agency or department of the United States, under such reasonable terms or conditions as the Secretary of Commerce determines to be necessary to carry out the objects of this Act: Provided, however, That not in excess of ten such vessels shall be operated and tested under the authority of this section in any one year. Bareboat charters entered into under this section shall be made at reasonable rates of charter and shall include such restrictions and conditions as the Secretary of Commerce determines to be necessary or appropriate to protect the public interest, including provisions for recapture of profits as provided for in section 709 of this Act, as amended. Charters and general agency agreements entered into under this section shall be reviewed annually for the purpose of determining whether conditions exist which would justify continuance of the charter or agreement. Those provisions of law prescribed or incorporated under the heading 'VESSEL OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND' in chapter VIII of the Third Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1951 (Public Law 43, Eighty-second Congress; 65 Stat. 52, 59), which relate to vessel operating activities of the Secretary of Commerce and to employment of seamen through general agents, shall be applicable in connection with charters and agreements entered into under this section."

Approved July 11, 1956.

Public Law 702

JOINT RESOLUTION

Directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study and investigation of Indian education in the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary"), acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is authorized and directed to conduct a study and investigation of Indian education in the continental United States and Alaska, including a study and investigation of (1) the education problems of Indian children from non-English speaking homes, and (2) the possibility of establishing a more orderly, equitable, and acceptable program for transferring Indian children to public schools.
SEC. 2. The Secretary, in carrying out the provisions of this joint resolution, is authorized to enter into contracts in accordance with the provisions of the Johnson-O'Malley Act of June 4, 1936 (49 Stat. 1458; 25 U.S.C. 452).

SEC. 3. Not later than two years after funds are made available to carry out the purposes of this joint resolution, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a complete report of the results of such study and investigation, together with such recommendations as he deems desirable.

SEC. 4. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of this joint resolution.

Approved July 14, 1956.

Public Law 703

AN ACT

To amend title 28, United States Code relating to the Customs Court.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 251 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the first sentence thereof a new sentence as follows: “Such court is hereby declared to be a court established under article III of the Constitution of the United States.”

SEC. 2. Section 292 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end of such section a new subsection as follows:

“(f) The Chief Justice of the United States may upon presentation to him by the chief judge of the Customs Court of a certificate of necessity, designate and assign temporarily any district judge to serve as a judge of the Customs Court.”

SEC. 3. (a) Section 293 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end of such section a new paragraph as follows:

“The Chief Justice of the United States may designate and assign temporarily a judge of the Customs Court to perform judicial duties in a district court in any circuit upon presentation of a certificate of necessity by the chief judge or circuit justice of the circuit wherein the need arises.”

(b) The first paragraph of section 295 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end thereof a new sentence as follows:

“No designation and assignment of a judge of the Customs Court in active service shall be made without the consent of the chief judge of such court.”

SEC. 4. Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed in any way to limit or alter the jurisdiction heretofore conferred upon the United States Customs Court by any provision of law.

Approved July 14, 1956.

Public Law 704

AN ACT

To authorize the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to fix rates of compensation of members of certain examining and licensing boards and commissions, 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) notwithstanding the provisions set forth in the Acts mentioned in section 2 of