

Public Law 918

CHAPTER 878

August 2, 1956
[S. 1915]

AN ACT

To provide for further effectuating the Act of May 15, 1862, through the exchange of employees of the United States Department of Agriculture and employees of State political subdivisions or educational institutions.

Agriculture.
Dissemination of
information.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress hereby declares that the objectives of this Act are to aid in the dissemination of useful information on subjects connected with agriculture and to provide a means whereby the Government of the United States and the several States may better cooperate in problems arising as a result of the interrelationships of their work in the field of agriculture.

Definitions.

SEC. 2. For the purposes of this Act, the term "Department" shall be deemed to mean United States Department of Agriculture; "Secretary" shall mean Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture; and "State" shall mean a State, county, city, municipality, land-grant college, or a college or university operated by any State or local government.

Interchange of
employees.

SEC. 3. In carrying out this Act, the Secretary is authorized through cooperative agreements or otherwise to provide for the interchange of employees of the Department and employees of States. The period of assignment under such an interchange arrangement shall not exceed two years.

Department em-
ployees.
Salary and leave
rights.

SEC. 4. Employees of the Department participating in an exchange of personnel as authorized in section 3 may be considered during such participation to be (1) on detail to a regular work assignment of the Department, or (2) in a status of leave-of-absence from their positions in the Department. Employees who are considered to be detailed shall be entitled to the same salary and benefits to which they would otherwise be entitled and shall remain employees of the Department for all other purposes except that the supervision of their duties during the period of detail may be governed by agreement between the Department and the State involved. Employees who are in a leave-of-absence status as provided herein shall be carried on leave without pay: *Provided*, That they may be granted annual leave to the extent authorized by law and may be granted authorized sick leave only in circumstances considered by the Secretary to justify approval of such leave. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, such employees shall have the same rights, benefits, and obligations as employees generally who are in such leave status but notwithstanding any other provision of law such employees shall be entitled to credit the period of such assignment (1) toward periodic and longevity step-increases, and (2) upon payment into the retirement fund of the percentage of their State salary which would have been deducted from a like Federal salary for the period of such assignment, to credit such period as service within the meaning of the Civil Service Retirement Act; and they shall also be entitled to continuation of their insurance under the Federal Employee's Group Life Insurance Act of 1954, so long as the Department continues to collect the employee's contribution from the employee and to transmit for timely deposit into the employees' life insurance fund the amount of the employee's contribution, and the Government's contribution from Department appropriations. Any employee who participates in an exchange under the terms of this section who suffers disability or death as a result of personal injury arising out of and in the course of an exchange, or sustained in the performance of duties in connection therewith shall be treated, for the purposes of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, as

46 Stat. 468.
5 USC 691 notes.

68 Stat. 736.
5 USC 2091 note.

amended (5 U. S. C., sec. 790), as though he were an employee, as defined in such Act, who had sustained such injury in the performance of such duty, but shall not receive benefits under that Act for any period for which he elects to receive similar benefits from a State agency.

63 Stat. 860.

SEC. 5. Appropriations of the Department shall be available, in accordance with Standardized Government Travel Regulations, as amended, for the expenses of travel of employees assigned to States on either a detail or leave basis, expenses of transportation of their immediate families and expenses of transportation of their household goods and personal effects to the location of the posts of assignment and for such expenses for the return of employees to their official stations, but shall not be available for expenses of travel of the employees during such period of assignment.

Travel expenses.

SEC. 6. Employees of States who are assigned to the Department under authority of this Act may (1) be given appointments in the Department covering the periods of such assignments, or (2) be considered to be on detail to the Department. Appointments of persons so assigned may be made without regard to the civil-service laws or regulations. Persons given appointment in the Department shall be paid at rates of compensation in accordance with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended. State employees who are assigned to the Department without appointment shall not be considered to be employees of the Department, except as provided in section 7, nor shall they be paid a salary or wage by the Department during the period of their detail. The supervision of the duties of such employees during the assignment may be governed by agreement between the Department and the State involved.

State employees.

63 Stat. 954.
5 USC 1071 note.

SEC. 7. (a) Any State employee who is assigned to the Department without appointment shall nevertheless be subject to the provisions of sections 281, 283, 284, 434, 1902, 1905, and 1914 of title 18 of the United States Code and section 99, title 5, of the United States Code.

62 Stat. 697, 703,
790.

(b) Any State employee who is given an appointment while assigned to the Department or who is assigned to the Department without appointment and who suffers disability or death as a result of personal injury arising out of and in the course of such assignment, or sustained in the performance of duties in connection therewith shall be treated, for the purpose of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, as amended (5 U. S. C., sec. 790), as though he were an employee, as defined in such Act, who had sustained such injury in the performance of such duty, but shall not receive benefits under that Act for any period for which he elects to receive similar benefits as a State employee.

63 Stat. 860.

SEC. 8. The appropriations of the Department shall be available in accordance with the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, as amended, for the payment of expenses of travel of persons assigned to, but not given appointments by, the Department under authority of this Act during the periods of such assignments on the same basis as if they were employees of the Department.

Travel expenses.

Approved August 2, 1956.

Public Law 919

CHAPTER 879

AN ACT

To further protect and assure the privacy of grand or petit juries in the courts of the United States while such juries are deliberating or voting.

August 2, 1956
[S. 2887]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That chapter 73 of

Grand or petit
juries.
62 Stat. 769.