Public Law 87-242

AN ACT

To amend section 4(a) of the Act of April 1, 1942, so as to confer jurisdiction on the municipal court for the District of Columbia over certain counterclaims and crossclaims in any action in which such court has initial jurisdiction.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the second sentence of section 4(a) of the Act entitled "An Act to consolidate the police court of the District of Columbia and the municipal court of the District of Columbia, to be known as 'the municipal court for the District of Columbia', to create 'the municipal court of appeals for the District of Columbia', and for other purposes", approved April 1, 1942 (D.C. Code, sec. 11-755(a)), is amended to read as follows: "The court and each judge thereof shall have and exercise the same powers and jurisdiction as were heretofore had or exercised by the police court of the District of Columbia or by the municipal court of the District of Columbia or the judges thereof on the effective date of this Act and in addition the said court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of civil actions in which the claimed value of personal property or the debt or damages claimed, exclusive of interest, attorneys' fees, protest fees, and costs, does not exceed the sum of $3,000 and, in addition, shall also have exclusive jurisdiction of such actions against executors, administrators, and other fiduciaries as well as of all crossclaims and counterclaims interposed in all actions over which it has jurisdiction, regardless of the amount involved: Provided, how­ever, That the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia shall have jurisdiction of counterclaims and crossclaims interposed in actions over which it has jurisdiction."

Sec. 2. The amendment made by the first section of this Act shall apply only with respect to actions instituted on and after the date of enactment of this Act.

Sec. 3. This Act shall take effect thirty days after enactment.

Approved September 14, 1961.

Public Law 87-243

AN ACT

To amend title VI of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, in order to increase certain limitations in payments on account of operating-differential subsidy under such title.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the third sentence in the first paragraph of section 603(c) of such Act, as amended (46 U.S.C. 1173), is amended to read as follows: "Effective on and after July 1, 1962, such payments on account shall in no case exceed 90 per centum of the amount estimated to have accrued on account of such subsidy, except that, with respect to that part of the subsidy relating to any particular voyage, an additional 5 per centum may be paid to the contractor after such contractor's audit of the voyage account for such voyage has been completed and the Secretary of Commerce has verified the correctness of the same."

Approved September 14, 1961.