

Public Law 93-140

AN ACT

October 26, 1973
[H. R. 8250]

To authorize certain programs and activities of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

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

District of Columbia government.
Programs and activities, authorization.

EXPENDITURES FOR EMERGENCIES

SECTION 1. When required by the public exigencies to meet conditions caused by emergencies such as riot, pestilence, public insanitary conditions, flood, fire, storm, and similar disasters, the Commissioner of the District of Columbia, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council, is authorized to expend such amounts as may be necessary without regard to advertising provisions of section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5).

D. C. Code
1-808.

OFFICIAL USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

SEC. 2. All passenger motor vehicles and watercraft owned by the District of Columbia shall be operated and utilized in conformity with section 5 of the Act of July 16, 1914, as amended by section 16 of the Act of August 2, 1946 (31 U.S.C. 638a), and shall be under the direction and control of the Commissioner of the District of Columbia. The Commissioner is authorized to alter or change the assignment or direct the alteration or interchangeable use of any passenger motor vehicles or watercraft by officers and employees of the District of Columbia except as otherwise provided in such Act. Limitations on the official use of passenger motor vehicles, as set out in section 5 of such Act, shall not apply to the Commissioner or, with the approval of the Commissioner, to officers and employees of the District government the character of whose duties make such transportation necessary.

60 Stat. 810;
84 Stat. 879.

FUNERAL AND BURIAL SERVICES

SEC. 3. (a) The Commissioner of the District of Columbia is hereby authorized, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council, to provide for the payment of reasonable funeral and burial expenses of indigent residents of the District of Columbia and of persons under the care and custody of the District of Columbia government institutions.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed as repealing or in any way modifying any provision of the Acts approved April 29, 1902 (D.C. Code, secs. 2-201 through 2-209) and April 20, 1906 (D.C. Code, secs. 27-129 through 27-131), or of the District of Columbia Public Assistance Act of 1962 (D.C. Code, sec. 3-201 et seq.).

32 Stat. 173.
34 Stat. 123;
81 Stat. 532.
76 Stat. 914.

PAYMENTS TO PATIENTS

SEC. 4. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council, is authorized to furnish cash payments to needy patients in hospitals operated by or under contract (relating to the care of needy patients) with the District of Columbia in such amounts and at such times as he may determine.

CARE OF PATIENTS IN SECTARIAN AND NONSECTARIAN INSTITUTIONS

SEC. 5. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commissioner of the District of Columbia, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council, is authorized from time to time to enter into contracts with institutions under sectarian and nonsectarian control, and to make payments to such institutions, for the care of indigent and medically indigent patients in hospitals and for the care and maintenance of persons who are a responsibility of the District of Columbia. The Council shall, in determining the level of payment to sectarian and nonsectarian institutions, take into consideration average costs in caring for like persons in area institutions, and in no event shall such payment for medical services exceed reasonable costs as determined under the District of Columbia medicaid program.

Contract authority.

STIPENDS FOR PATIENTS

SEC. 6. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia is authorized, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council, to provide for the payment of stipends to patients and residents employed in institutions of or under programs sponsored by the government of the District of Columbia as an aid to their rehabilitation or for training purposes. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as conferring employee status on any person covered by this section.

BENEFITS FURNISHED WORKERS IN DISTRICT FACILITIES

SEC. 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commissioner of the District of Columbia is authorized to furnish, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council, subsistence, living quarters, and laundry in lieu of salary to persons authorized by the Commissioner to work in facilities of the government of the District of Columbia for the purposes of securing training and experience in their future vocations. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as conferring employee status on any person covered by this section, nor as superseding the requirements of sections 5352 and 5353 of title 5, United States Code, relating to student employees specified therein who are assigned or attached to a hospital, clinic, or medical or dental laboratory.

80 Stat. 472;
82 Stat. 1312.

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

SEC. 8. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia is authorized to make provisions and payment for the furnishing of fire prevention and fire protection services to District of Columbia government institutions located outside the District of Columbia.

FUNDS FOR THE PREVENTION AND DETECTION OF CRIME

SEC. 9. The Chief of Police of the Metropolitan Police Department is authorized, with the approval of the Commissioner of the District of Columbia and within the limits of appropriations therefor, to make expenditures for the prevention and detection of crime under his certificate. The certificate of the Chief of Police for such expenditures shall be deemed a sufficient voucher for the sum therein expressed to have been expended.

ATTENDANCE AT PISTOL MATCHES

SEC. 10. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia is authorized to pay the expenses of officers and members of the Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Corrections for attending pistol matches, including entrance fees, and is further authorized to permit officers and members to attend such matches without loss of pay or time.

PAYMENT OF REWARDS

SEC. 11. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia, pursuant to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council, is authorized to provide for the payment of rewards for the capture, or for information leading to the apprehension, of fugitives from District of Columbia penal, correctional, and welfare institutions and of conditional release and parole violators. Funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be apportioned and expended in the discretion of, and upon such conditions as may be imposed by, the Commissioner of the District of Columbia. No reward money shall be paid to any officer or employee of the Metropolitan Police Department, or of any penal, correctional, or welfare institution, or of any court, legal agency, or other agency closely involved in the criminal justice system.

Restriction.

DISCHARGE AND RELEASE PAYMENTS

SEC. 12. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia is authorized to furnish each prisoner upon his release from a penal or correctional institution under the jurisdiction of the government of the District of Columbia with suitable clothing and, in the discretion of the Commissioner, a sum of money, which shall not exceed \$100.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES WORKING FUND

SEC. 13. (a) There is established in the Treasury of the United States a permanent working fund, without fiscal year limitation, to be known as the Construction Services Fund, Department of General Services, District of Columbia. The Commissioner is authorized to transfer to such fund from capital outlay appropriations for public building construction such amounts as he may deem necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, and, subject to subsequent adjustment, advances and reimbursements may be made to such fund from appropriations for services to other departments and agencies of the District government, without reference to fiscal year limitations on such appropriations. The fund shall be available for expenses incurred in the initial planning for construction projects, for work performed under contract or otherwise, including, but not limited to, preliminary planning and related expenses, surveys, preparation of plans and specifications, soil investigation, administration, overhead, planning design, engineering, inspection, and contract management.

(b) The District of Columbia Council shall annually review the budget of the Construction Services Fund within ninety days after the annual District of Columbia Appropriations Act is enacted into law.

(c) The District of Columbia Council, the Board of Higher Education, the Board of Vocational Education, the Board of Education, the Public Library Board, and the Executive Director of the District of Columbia Court System shall be kept fully advised, at least semi-annually, of the status of projects and activities within their respective areas of concern which are financed from the Construction Services Fund.

Establishment.

Transfer of funds.

Budget, annual review.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

SEC. 14. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, appropriations for the Department of Highways and Traffic and the Department of Environmental Services of the government of the District of Columbia shall be available for purposes of snow and ice removal when so ordered by the Commissioner of the District of Columbia.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY PROJECTS

SEC. 15. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia is authorized to enter into contracts in connection with projects undertaken as Federal-aid highway projects under the provisions of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1944 in such amounts as shall be approved by the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation.

Contract authority.

58 Stat. 838.

GRADE-CROSSING ELIMINATION PROJECTS

SEC. 16. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia is authorized to construct grade-crossing elimination and other wholly District construction projects or those authorized under section 8 of the Act of June 16, 1936 (49 Stat. 1521), and section 1(b) of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1938, in accordance with the provisions of such Acts. Pursuant to this authority, the Commissioner may make payment to contractors and payment for other expenses in connection with the costs of surveys, design, construction, and inspection pending reimbursement to the District of Columbia by the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, or other parties participating in such projects.

52 Stat. 633.

CIVIL DEFENSE MATCHING FUNDS

SEC. 17. Section 3(h) of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize the District of Columbia government to establish an Office of Civil Defense, and for other purposes", approved August 11, 1950 (D.C. Code, sec. 6-1203(h)), is amended by striking the semicolon and inserting in lieu thereof a comma and the following: "and, when authorized by the Commissioner, appropriations available to the District of Columbia may be used to match financial contributions made by any department or agency of the United States to the government of the District for the purchase of civil defense equipment and supplies;"

64 Stat. 439.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT

SEC. 18. Appropriations are hereby authorized for the acquisition, by gift, dedication, exchange, purchase, or condemnation, of land or rights in or on land or easements therein for the Washington aqueduct by the Chief of Engineers, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, or his designated agents.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW

SEC. 19. The Act entitled "An Act to provide compensation for disability or death resulting from injury to employees in certain employments in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes", approved May 17, 1928 (D.C. Code, secs. 36-501, 502), is amended by renumbering section 3 as section 4 and by inserting the following new section immediately after section 2:

45 Stat. 600;
52 Stat. 689.

"SEC. 3. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may

be necessary to pay the expenses incurred by the United States Department of Labor in the administration of this Act.”

DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM

SEC. 20. The Board of Education is authorized, within the limits of appropriations therefor, to accept, on a loan basis, and to maintain and provide for insurance of motor vehicles, for use in the driver education programs of the public schools.

SUBSISTENCE AND TRANSPORTATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

SEC. 21. The Board of Education is authorized to provide for the furnishing of subsistence supplies and transportation for severely handicapped children attending special education schools or classes established for their benefit in the public school system of the District of Columbia.

SUMMER SCHOOL COMPENSATION

SEC. 22. Compensation payable to personnel employed in the summer school program of the public school system of the District of Columbia is hereby authorized to be charged to the appropriation for the fiscal year in which the pay periods end.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OF DISTRICT SCHOOL TEACHERS

80 Stat. 483.

SEC. 23. Subsection (e) of section 5533 of title 5, United States Code, is amended (a) by inserting “(1)” immediately following “(e)”; and (b) by adding the following new paragraph:

“(2) Subsection (e) of this section does not apply to pay received by a teacher of the public schools of the District of Columbia for employment in a position during the summer vacation period.”

SCHOOL CEREMONIAL EXPENSES

SEC. 24. The President of the Federal City College, the President of the Washington Technical Institute, the President of the District of Columbia Teachers College, and the Superintendent of Schools are hereby authorized to utilize moneys appropriated for the purposes of this section for such expenses as they may respectively deem necessary to conduct such official ceremonial, and graduation activities as are normally associated with the programs of educational institutions.

AMENDMENT OF LAWS RELATING TO ADVERTISING

32 Stat. 632;
44 Stat. 834.

SEC. 25. (a) The second sentence of the first section of the Act approved February 28, 1898 (D.C. Code, sec. 47-1001), is amended to read as follows: “The notice of sale and the delinquent tax list shall be advertised according to regulations prescribed by the District of Columbia Council in not less than two major daily newspapers published in the District.”

45 Stat. 650.

(b) Section 7 of the Act approved February 28, 1898 (D.C. Code, sec. 47-1008), is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. The expenses of advertising the notice of sale and delinquent tax list for real property taxes, water charges, sanitary sewer service charges, and special assessments in arrears together with penalties and costs, shall be reimbursed to the District by a charge to be fixed annually by the Commissioner and assessed against each lot or piece

of property advertised. The amounts so received shall be deposited to such fund of the District as the Commissioner shall from time to time determine."

(c) The first sentence of section 5 of the Act approved June 11, 1878 (D.C. Code, sec. 7-601), is amended by striking "and if the total cost shall exceed \$5,000, then in one newspaper in each of the cities of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore also for one week," and inserting in lieu thereof: "but not elsewhere, unless the need for advertising outside the District shall have been specifically approved by the Commissioner".

Notice; bids.
20 Stat. 105.

(d) Appropriations authorized by this Act or any Act of Congress shall be available to the Commissioner for general advertising authorized by law, and for the publication of notices of public hearings, orders, regulations, amendments of orders and regulations, tax and school notices, and similar matters of public interest, in the District of Columbia Register, and, except as otherwise provided by law, in such newspapers, legal periodicals, trade journals, and other printed media at such times and in such places as may be approved by the said Commissioner.

Publication in
District of Colum-
bia Register.

OFFICIAL FUNDS

SEC. 26. The Commissioner of the District of Columbia, the Chairman of the District of Columbia Council, the Superintendent of Schools, the President of the Federal City College, the President of the Washington Technical Institute, and the President of the District of Columbia Teachers College are hereby authorized to provide for the expenditure, within the limits of specified annual appropriations, of funds for appropriate purposes related to their official capacity as they may respectively deem necessary. Their determination thereof shall be final and conclusive, and their certificate shall be sufficient voucher for the expenditure of appropriations made pursuant to this section.

TAXI SERVICE STUDY

SEC. 27. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia is authorized and directed to conduct a study of the adequacy of service and regulation of the taxicab industry in the District of Columbia. The study shall include the feasibility of allowing the installation of meters in taxicabs in the District of Columbia.

(b) Within six months following the date of enactment of this Act, the Public Service Commission shall transmit the final report of the results of such investigation and study, including its finding and recommendations, to the Commissioner of the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Council, and the District of Columbia government shall within ninety days consider the same, and transmit its recommendations and the final report of the Public Service Commission to the Congress.

Report to Com-
missioner, Coun-
cil, and govern-
ment.

AUTHORIZATIONS

SEC. 28. Appropriations to carry out the purposes of this Act and the amendments made by this Act are hereby authorized.

Approved October 26, 1973.