Public Law 85-890
85th Congress, S. 2114
September 2, 1958

AN ACT

To amend the Act of March 3, 1901 (31 Stat. 1449), as amended, to incorporate in the Organic Act of the National Bureau of Standards the authority to acquire land for field sites, to undertake construction and improvement of buildings and for other activities.

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 to establish the National Bureau of Standards", approved March 3, 1901, as amended, is amended by adding the following sections: National Bureau of Standards.

"SEC. 13. To the extent that funds are specifically appropriated therefor, the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to acquire land for such field sites as are necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the activities authorized herein. Field sites. 70 Stat. 959. 15 USC 271 et seq.

"SEC. 14. Within the limits of funds which are appropriated for the National Bureau of Standards, the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to undertake such construction of buildings and other facilities and to make such improvements to existing buildings, grounds, and other facilities occupied or used by the National Bureau of Standards as are necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the activities authorized herein: *Provided*, That no improvement shall be made nor shall any building be constructed under this authority at a cost in excess of $40,000 unless specific provision is made therefor in the appropriation concerned. Improvements, etc.

"SEC. 15. In the performance of the functions of the National Bureau of Standards the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to undertake the following activities: (a) The purchase, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for guards; (b) the repair and alteration of buildings and other plant facilities; (c) the rental of field sites and laboratory, office, and warehouse space; (d) the purchase of reprints from technical journals or other periodicals and the payment of page charges for the publication of research papers and reports in such journals; (e) the furnishing of food and shelter without repayment therefor to employees of the Government at Arctic and Antarctic stations; (f) for the conduct of observations on radio propagation phenomena in the Arctic or Antarctic regions, the appointment of employees at base rates established by the Secretary of Commerce which shall not exceed such maximum rates as may be specified from time to time in the appropriation concerned, and without regard to the civil service and classification laws and titles II and III of the Federal Employees Pay Act of 1945; and (g) the erection on leased property of specialized facilities and working and living quarters when the Secretary of Commerce determines that this will best serve the interests of the Government." Functions. 72 Stat. 1711. 72 Stat. 1712. 59 Stat. 296, 298. 68 Stat. 1109. 5 USC 911 et seq. 921 et seq.

SEC. 2. Such Act is further amended in section 11, paragraph (a) by striking out the word "therein" and substituting therefor the word "herein". 15 USC 278a.

SEC. 3. The Act entitled "An Act to provide authority for certain functions and activities in the Department of Commerce and for other purposes" approved July 21, 1950, is hereby repealed in its entirety. Repeal. 64 Stat. 370. 15 USC 285, 286.

Approved September 2, 1958.