

Budget Office certifying officers shall (1) be held responsible for the existence and correctness of the facts recited in the certificate or otherwise stated on the voucher or its supporting paper and the legality of the proposed payment under the appropriation or fund involved, (2) be held responsible and accountable for the correctness of the computations of certifications made, and (3) be held accountable for and required to make good to the United States the amount of any illegal, improper, or incorrect payment resulting from any false, inaccurate, or misleading certificate made by him, as well as for any payment prohibited by law which did not represent a legal obligation under the appropriation or fund involved: *Provided*, That the Comptroller General of the United States may, at his discretion, relieve such certifying officer or employee of liability for any payment otherwise proper whenever he finds (1) that the certification was based on official records and that such certifying officer or employee did not know, and by reasonable diligence and inquiry could not have ascertained the actual facts, or (2) that the obligation was incurred in good faith, that the payment was not contrary to any statutory provision specifically prohibiting payments of the character involved, and the United States has received value for such payment: *Provided further*, That the Comptroller General shall relieve such certifying officer or employee of liability for an overpayment for transportation services made to any common carrier covered by section 3726 of title 31, whenever he finds that the overpayment occurred solely because the administrative examination made prior to payment of the transportation bill did not include a verification of transportation rates, freight classifications, or land grant deductions.

The Disbursing Officer of the Library of Congress shall not be held accountable or responsible for any illegal, improper, or incorrect payment resulting from any false, inaccurate, or misleading certificate, the responsibility for which is imposed upon a certifying officer or employee of the Congressional Budget Office.

(Pub. L. 96-536, §101(c), Dec. 16, 1980, 94 Stat. 3167.)

CODIFICATION

In the second par., “section 3726 of title 31” substituted for “section 244 of title 31” on authority of Pub. L. 97-258, §4(b), Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1067, the first section of which enacted Title 31, Money and Finance.

Section is based on section 207 of title II of H.R. 7593, as passed the House of Representatives on July 21, 1980, and incorporated by reference in section 101(c) of Pub. L. 96-536, to be effective as if enacted into law.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

Pub. L. 96-86, §101(c) [H.R. 4390, title II, §207], Oct. 12, 1979, 93 Stat. 657.

Pub. L. 95-391, title II, §207, Sept. 30, 1978, 92 Stat. 786.

Pub. L. 95-94, title II, §207, Aug. 5, 1977, 91 Stat. 678.

Pub. L. 94-440, title VIII, §808, Oct. 1, 1976, 90 Stat. 1458.

Pub. L. 94-157, title I, ch. IV, Dec. 18, 1975, 89 Stat. 835.

§ 142f. Office of Technology Assessment; disbursement of funds, computation and disbursement of basic pay, and provision of financial management support by Library of Congress

From and after October 1, 1981, the Disbursing Officer of the Library of Congress is authorized to disburse funds appropriated for the Office of Technology Assessment, and the Library of Congress shall provide financial management support to the Office of Technology Assessment as may be required and mutually agreed to by the Librarian of Congress and the Director of the Office of Technology Assessment. The Library of Congress is further authorized to compute and disburse the basic pay of all personnel of the Office of Technology Assessment pursuant to the provisions of section 5504 of title 5.

All vouchers certified for payment by duly authorized certifying officers of the Library of Congress shall be supported with a certification by an officer or employee of the Office of Technology Assessment duly authorized in writing by the Director of the Office of Technology Assessment to certify payments from appropriations of the Office of Technology Assessment. The Office of Technology Assessment certifying officers shall (1) be held responsible for the existence and correctness of the facts recited in the certificate or otherwise stated on the voucher or its supporting paper and the legality of the proposed payment under the appropriation or fund involved, (2) be held responsible and accountable for the correctness of the computations of certifications made, and (3) be held accountable for and required to make good to the United States the amount of any illegal, improper, or incorrect payment resulting from any false, inaccurate, or misleading certificate made by him, as well as for any payment prohibited by law which did not represent a legal obligation under the appropriation or fund involved: *Provided*, That the Comptroller General of the United States may, at his discretion, relieve such certifying officer or employee of liability for any payment otherwise proper whenever he finds (1) that the certification was based on official records and that such certifying officer or employee did not know, and by reasonable diligence and inquiry could not have ascertained the actual facts, or (2) that the obligation was incurred in good faith, that the payment was not contrary to any statutory provision specifically prohibiting payments of the character involved, and the United States has received value for such payment: *Provided further*, That the Comptroller General shall relieve such certifying officer or employee of liability for an overpayment for transportation services made to any common carrier covered by section 3726 of title 31, whenever he finds that the overpayment occurred solely because of¹ the administrative examination made prior to payment of the transportation bill did not include a verification of transportation rates, freight classifications, or land grant deductions.

The Disbursing Officer of the Library of Congress shall not be held accountable or respon-

¹ So in original. The word “of” probably should not appear.

sible for any illegal, improper, or incorrect payment resulting from any false, inaccurate, or misleading certificate, the responsibility for which is imposed upon a certifying officer or employee of the Office of Technology Assessment.

(Pub. L. 97–51, § 101(c), Oct. 1, 1981, 95 Stat. 959.)

CODIFICATION

In the second par., “section 3726 of title 31” substituted for “section 244 of title 31” on authority of Pub. L. 97–258, § 4(b), Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1067, the first section of which enacted Title 31, Money and Finance.

Section is based on section 205 of title II of H.R. 4120, as reported July 9, 1981, and incorporated by reference in section 101(c) of Pub. L. 97–51, to be effective as if enacted into law.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 142h, 142j of this title.

§ 142g. Copyright Royalty Tribunal; computation and disbursement of pay of Tribunal personnel by Library of Congress

From and after October 1, 1983, the Library of Congress is authorized to compute and disburse basic pay of all personnel of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal pursuant to the provisions of section 5504 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 98–51, title II, § 204, July 14, 1983, 97 Stat. 277.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

Pub. L. 97–276, § 101(e) [S. 2939, title II, § 204], Oct. 2, 1982, 96 Stat. 1189.

Pub. L. 97–51, § 101(c) [H.R. 4120, title II, § 204], Oct. 1, 1981, 95 Stat. 959.

Pub. L. 96–536, § 101(c) [H.R. 7593, title II, § 208], Dec. 16, 1980, 94 Stat. 3167.

Pub. L. 96–86, § 101(c) [H.R. 4390, title II, § 208], Oct. 12, 1979, 93 Stat. 657.

Pub. L. 95–391, title II, § 208, Sept. 30, 1978, 92 Stat. 786.

Pub. L. 95–94, title II, § 208, Aug. 5, 1977, 91 Stat. 678.

§ 142h. Biomedical Ethics Board; disbursement of funds, computation and disbursement of basic pay, and provision of financial management services and support by Library of Congress

Effective October 1, 1988, and to continue thereafter, the Disbursing Officer of the Library of Congress is authorized to—

(1) disburse funds appropriated for the Biomedical Ethics Board;

(2) compute and disburse the basic pay for all personnel of the Biomedical Ethics Board; and

(3) provide financial management services and support to the Biomedical Ethics Board,

in the same manner as provided with respect to the Office of Technology Assessment under section 142f of this title.

(Pub. L. 101–163, title I, Nov. 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1054.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in the following prior appropriation act:

Pub. L. 100–458, title I, Oct. 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2168.

§ 142i. United States Capitol Preservation Commission; provision of financial management services and support by Library of Congress

Effective June 15, 1989, the Library of Congress shall provide financial management services and support to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission as may be required and mutually agreed to by the Librarian of Congress and the Cochairmen of the United States Capitol Preservation Commission.

(Pub. L. 101–45, title I, June 30, 1989, 103 Stat. 107.)

§ 142j. John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development; disbursement of funds, computation and disbursement of basic pay, and provision of financial management services and support by Library of Congress; payment for services

From and after October 1, 1988, the Library of Congress is authorized to—

(1) disburse funds appropriated for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development;

(2) compute and disburse the basic pay for all personnel of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development;

(3) provide financial management services and support to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development, in the same manner as provided with respect to the Office of Technology Assessment under section 142f of this title; and

(4) collect from the funds appropriated for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development the full costs of providing the services specified in (1), (2), and (3) above, as provided under an agreement for services ordered under 31 U.S.C. 1535 and 1536.

(Pub. L. 101–163, title II, § 205, Nov. 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1060.)

§ 142k. Library of Congress disbursing office; payroll processing functions

From and after October 1, 1989, the Librarian of Congress shall take appropriate action to assure that no legislative branch employee whose salary is disbursed by the Library of Congress disbursing office is adversely affected by alternative ways of performing the personnel/payroll processing function.

(Pub. L. 101–163, title II, § 206, Nov. 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1060.)

§ 142l. Disbursing Officer of Library of Congress; disbursements for Office of Compliance; voucher certifications, accountability and relief by Comptroller General

From and after October 1, 1996, the Disbursing Officer of the Library of Congress is authorized to disburse funds appropriated for the Office of Compliance, and the Library of Congress shall provide financial management support to the Office of Compliance as may be required and mutually agreed to by the Librarian of Congress and the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance.