

the Library of Congress, created by section 142 of this title, is abolished and thereafter the duties required to be performed by the administrative assistant and disbursing officer shall be performed, under the direction of the Librarian of Congress, by such persons as the Librarian may appoint for those purposes.

(May 11, 1928, ch. 521, 45 Stat. 497; Pub. L. 92-310, title II, § 220(h), June 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 205.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 142 of this title, referred to in text, was omitted from the Code.

AMENDMENTS

1972—Pub. L. 92-310 struck out provisions which required the person disbursing appropriations for Library of Congress and Botanic Garden to give a bond in sum of \$30,000.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Disbursement functions of all Government agencies, except Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force and Panama Canal transferred to Division of Disbursements, Treasury Department, by Ex. Ord. No. 6166, § 4, June 10, 1933, and Ex. Ord. No. 6728, May 29, 1934.

Division subsequently consolidated with other agencies into Fiscal Service in Treasury Department by Reorg. Plan No. III of 1940, §1(a)(1), eff. June 30, 1940, 5 F.R. 2107, 54 Stat. 1231. See section 306 of Title 31, Money and Finance.

§ 142b. Certifying officers of the Library of Congress; accountability; relief by Comptroller General

On and after June 13, 1957, each officer and employee of the Library of Congress, including the Copyright Office, who has been duly authorized in writing by the Librarian of Congress to certify vouchers for payment from appropriations and funds, 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or its supporting papers and for the legality of the proposed payment under the appropriation or fund involved; (2) [Repealed]; (3) be held responsible and accountable for the correctness of the computations of certified vouchers; and (4) be held accountable for and required to make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 or 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.

(Pub. L. 85-53, §1, June 13, 1957, 71 Stat. 81; Pub. L. 92-310, title II, §220(k), June 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 205.)

CODIFICATION

“Section 3726 of title 31” substituted in text for “title III, part II, section 322, of the Transportation Act of 1940, approved September 18, 1940 [31 U.S.C. 244]” 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.

AMENDMENTS

1972—Pub. L. 92-310 struck out provisions which required officers and employees of Library who are authorized to certify vouchers for payment to give a bond.

§ 142c. Enforcement of liability of certifying officers of Library of Congress

The liability of these certifying officers or employees shall be enforced in the same manner and to the same extent as now provided by law with respect to enforcement of the liability of disbursing and other accountable officers; and they shall have the right to apply for and obtain a decision by the Comptroller General on any question of law involved in a payment on any vouchers presented to them for certification.

(Pub. L. 85-53, §2, June 13, 1957, 71 Stat. 81.)

§ 142d. Disbursing officer of the Library of Congress; disbursements in accordance with voucher; examination of vouchers; liability

The disbursing officer of the Library of Congress shall (1) disburse moneys of the Library of Congress only upon, and in strict accordance with, vouchers duly certified by the Librarian of Congress or by an officer or employee of the Library of Congress duly authorized in writing by the Librarian to certify such vouchers; (2) make such examination of vouchers as may be necessary to ascertain whether they are in proper form, and duly certified and approved; and (3) be held accountable accordingly: *Provided*, That the disbursing officer 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, under section 142b of this title, is imposed upon a certifying officer or employee of the Library of Congress.

(Pub. L. 85-53, §3, June 13, 1957, 71 Stat. 81.)

§ 142e. Disbursing Officer of the Library of Congress; disbursements for Congressional Budget Office, accountability; financial management support to Congressional Budget Office under agreement of Librarian of Congress and Director of Congressional Budget Office; Congressional Budget Office certifying officers: voucher certifications, accountability, relief by Comptroller General

From and after January 1, 1976, the Disbursing Officer of the Library of Congress is authorized