

ing appropriations may provide for the withholding of any payments from the United States to the government of Guam which may be or may become due pursuant to any law and offset the amount of such withheld payments against any claim the United States may have against the government of Guam or the Guam Power Authority pursuant to this guarantee. For the purpose of this chapter, under section 3713(a) of title 31 the term "person" includes the government of Guam and the Guam Power Authority. The Secretary may place such stipulations as he deems appropriate on the bonds or other obligations he guarantees.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §11, 64 Stat. 387; Pub. L. 94-395, Sept. 3, 1976, 90 Stat. 1199; Pub. L. 96-205, title III, §303, Mar. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 88; Pub. L. 98-454, title II, §203, Oct. 5, 1984, 98 Stat. 1733; Pub. L. 105-291, §4, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2786.)

#### CODIFICATION

"Section 3713(a) of title 31" substituted in text for "section 3466 of the Revised Statutes (31 U.S.C. 191)" 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

1998—Pub. L. 105-291 substituted "rightful subjects of legislation" for "subjects of legislation of local application" in first sentence.

1984—Pub. L. 98-454 inserted provisions relating to authority of Secretary to guarantee for purchase by the Federal Financing Bank, obligations of the Guam Power Authority to be used for a second refinancing of the principal amount due to mature on December 31, 1990.

1980—Pub. L. 96-205 substituted provisions relating to guarantees by the Secretary of the purchase by the Federal Financing Bank of the refinancing obligations of the Guam Power Authority where such refinancing obligations remain outstanding by Dec. 31, 1980, for provisions relating to payment of interest and default on maturity of guaranteed bonds or other obligations issued prior to Dec. 31, 1980.

1976—Pub. L. 94-395 inserted provisions relating to authority of Secretary of the Interior to guarantee for purchase by the Federal Financing Bank bonds or other obligations of the Guam Power Authority maturing on or before Dec. 31, 1978.

#### § 1423b. Selection and qualification of members; officers; rules and regulations; quorum

The legislature shall be the judge of the selection and qualification of its own members. It shall choose from its members its own officers, determine its rules and procedure, not inconsistent with this chapter, and keep a journal. The quorum of the legislature shall consist of a simple majority of its members. No bill shall become a law unless it shall have been passed at a meeting, at which a quorum was present, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting, which vote shall be by yeas and nays.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §12, 64 Stat. 388; Pub. L. 90-497, §6(b), Sept. 11, 1968, 82 Stat. 846; Pub. L. 105-291, §3, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2785.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-291 substituted "a simple majority" for "eleven".

1968—Pub. L. 90-497 inserted a quorum requirement, provided that a quorum of the legislature consist of

eleven of its members, and made presence of a quorum requisite to passage of a law.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1968 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 90-497, §6(b), Sept. 11, 1968, 82 Stat. 846, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective on date of enactment of Pub. L. 90-497, which was approved Sept. 11, 1968.

#### § 1423c. Privileges of members

(a) The members of the legislature shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the legislature and in going to and returning from the same.

(b) No member of the legislature shall be held to answer before any tribunal other than the legislature itself for any speech or debate in the legislature.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §13, 64 Stat. 388.)

#### § 1423d. Oath of office

Every member of the legislature and all officers of the government of Guam shall take the following oath or affirmation:

"I solemnly swear (or affirm) in the presence of Almighty God that I will well and faithfully support the Constitution of the United States, the laws of the United States applicable to Guam and the laws of Guam, and that I will conscientiously and impartially discharge my duties as a member of the Guam Legislature (or as an officer of the government of Guam)."

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §14, 64 Stat. 388.)

#### § 1423e. Prohibition against acceptance of salary increases or newly created offices

No member of the legislature shall, during the term for which he was elected or during the year following the expiration of such term, be appointed to any office which has been created, or the salary or emoluments of which have been increased during such term.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §15, 64 Stat. 388.)

#### § 1423f. Qualifications of members

No person shall sit in the legislature who is not a citizen of the United States, who has not attained the age of twenty-five years and who has not been domiciled in Guam for at least five years immediately preceding the sitting of the legislature in which he seeks to qualify as a member, or who has been convicted of a felony or of a crime involving moral turpitude and has not received a pardon restoring his civil rights.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §16, 64 Stat. 388.)

#### § 1423g. Vacancies

Vacancies occurring in the legislature shall be filled as the legislature shall provide, except that no person filling a vacancy shall hold office longer than for the remainder of the term for which his predecessor was elected.

(Aug. 1, 1950, ch. 512, §17, 64 Stat. 388.)

#### § 1423h. Regular and special sessions

Regular sessions of the legislature shall be held annually, commencing on the second Mon-