

in accordance with the provisions of this chapter; to rent and insure objects of art; to collect information and formulate plans; and, without regard to civil service and classification laws, to obtain architectural and other expert technical services as may be necessary and pay therefor the scale of professional fees as established by local authority, law or custom, and to make expenditures without regard to section 295a of this title requiring purchase of articles manufactured in the United States.

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 5, 44 Stat. 404; June 19, 1952, ch. 446, § 3, 66 Stat. 140.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 295a of this title, referred to in text, was omitted from the Code.

#### AMENDMENTS

1952—Act June 19, 1952, amended section generally to authorize Secretary of State to supervise, preserve, maintain, operate, and insure Foreign Service property in foreign countries.

### § 296a. Maintenance management of overseas property

The Director of the Office of Foreign Buildings Operations shall—

(1) direct overseas posts to make annual building condition assessments of buildings and facilities used by the post;

(2) not later than 90 days after October 28, 1991, revise the Foreign Affairs Manual to stipulate that the Buildings and Maintenance Handbook shall be used by each post to identify their maintenance needs, standardize their maintenance operations, and conduct annual assessments as required by paragraph (1);

(3) direct the Office of Foreign Buildings Operations to provide proper training and assistance to posts to ensure that annual surveys are effectively completed; and

(4) direct overseas posts to ensure that all maintenance program fiscal transactions are properly encoded in the Department of State accounting system to enable compilation of actual expenditures on routine maintenance and specific maintenance funded by the Office of Foreign Buildings Operations.

(Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 125, Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 659.)

#### CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993, and not as part of the Foreign Service Buildings Act, 1926, which comprises this chapter.

#### AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Except as otherwise provided, Secretary of State to have and exercise any authority vested by law in any official or office of Department of State and references to such officials or offices deemed to refer to Secretary of State or Department of State, as appropriate, see section 2651a of this title and section 161(d) of Pub. L. 103-236, set out as a note under section 2651a of this title.

### § 297. Acquisition of property by lease

The authority granted to acquire sites and buildings by purchase or otherwise shall include authority to acquire leaseholds.

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 6, 44 Stat. 405; June 19, 1952, ch. 446, § 4, 66 Stat. 140; Pub. L. 95-105, title I, § 106(b), Aug. 17, 1977, 91 Stat. 845.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1977—Pub. L. 95-105 struck out “of not less than ten years” after “acquire leaseholds”.

1952—Act June 19, 1952, provided for leaseholds of not less than 10 years.

### § 297a. Omitted

#### CODIFICATION

Section, which related to leaseholds of not less than ten years, was from the Department of State Appropriation Act, 1953, act July 10, 1952, ch. 651, title I, 66 Stat. 550, and was not repeated in subsequent appropriation acts. Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

1951—Oct. 22, 1951, ch. 533, title I, 65 Stat. 577.

1950—Sept. 6, 1950, ch. 896, ch. III, title I, 64 Stat. 610.

1949—July 20, 1949, ch. 354, title I, 63 Stat. 449.

### § 298. Omitted

#### CODIFICATION

Section, act May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 7, 44 Stat. 405, repealed act Feb. 17, 1911, ch. 105, 36 Stat. 917, incorporated as section 133 of this title, with a provision that the repeal “shall not invalidate appropriations already made under the authority of such Act.”

### § 299. Short title

This chapter may be cited as the “Foreign Service Buildings Act, 1926.”

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 8, 44 Stat. 405.)

### § 300. Dispositions of property; damage payments; acceptance of gifts or services

#### (a) Authority of Secretary of State

The Secretary of State is authorized—

(1) to sell, exchange, lease, or license any property or property interest acquired under this chapter, or under other authority, for use of diplomatic and consular establishments in foreign countries or in the United States pursuant to section 4304(b)(5) of this title,

(2) to receive payment in whatever form, or in kind, he determines to be in the interest of the United States for damage to or destruction of property acquired for use of diplomatic and consular establishments abroad, and the contents of such buildings, and

(3) to accept on behalf of the United States gifts of property or services of any kind made by will or otherwise for the purposes of this chapter.

#### (b) Disposition of proceeds; report to Congress

Proceeds derived from dispositions, payments, or gifts under subsection (a) shall, notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, be applied toward acquisition, construction, or other purposes authorized by this chapter or held in the Foreign Service Buildings Fund, as in the judgment of the Secretary may best serve the Government’s interest: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall report all such transactions annually to the Congress with the budget estimates of the Department of State.

#### (c) Proceeds from sale of furniture, furnishings, and equipment

Notwithstanding subsection (b), proceeds from the disposition of furniture, furnishings, and