

by an officer or employee of the Office of Compliance<sup>1</sup> duly authorized in writing by the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance<sup>1</sup> to certify payments from appropriations of the Office of Compliance.<sup>1</sup> The Office of Compliance<sup>1</sup> 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 them, 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 Office of Compliance.<sup>1</sup>

(Pub. L. 104-197, title II, §208, Sept. 16, 1996, 110 Stat. 2409.)

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### CHANGE OF NAME

Office of Compliance changed, as of Dec. 21, 2018, and considered to refer and apply, to the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, see section 308(d) of Pub. L. 115-397, set out as an Effective Date of 2018 Amendment note under section 1381 of this title.

#### § 143. Appropriations for Library Building and Grounds

All appropriations made to the Architect of the Capitol on account of the Library Building and Grounds shall be disbursed for that purpose in the same manner as other appropriations under his control.

(June 29, 1922, ch. 251, §3, 42 Stat. 715.)

#### Executive Documents

##### 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.

#### § 143a. Disbursement of funds

From and after October 1, 1978, funds available to the Library of Congress may be expended to reimburse the Department of State for medical services rendered to employees of the Library of Congress stationed abroad and for contracting on behalf of and hiring alien employees for the Library of Congress under compensation plans comparable to those authorized by section 444 of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as amended (22 U.S.C. 889(a)), for purchase or hire of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of travel, storage and transportation of household goods, and transportation and per diem expenses for families enroute (not to exceed twenty-four); for benefits comparable to those payable under sections 911(9), 911(11), and 941 of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as amended (22 U.S.C. 1136(9), 1136(11), and 1156, respectively); and travel benefits comparable with those which are now or hereafter may be granted single employees of the Agency for International Development, including single Foreign Service personnel assigned to A.I.D. projects, by the Administrator of the Agency for International Development—or his designee—under the authority of section 2396(b) of title 22; subject to such rules and regulations as may be issued by the Librarian of Congress.

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

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 444, 911(9), 911(11), and 941 of the Foreign Service Act of 1946, referred to in text, were repealed by section 2205(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-465, title II, Oct. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2159. The Foreign Service Act of 1980 is classified principally to chapter 52 (§3901 et seq.) of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse. Section 2401(c) of the 1980 Act (22 U.S.C. 4172(c)) provides in part that references in law to provisions of the Foreign Service Act of 1946 shall be deemed to include reference to the corresponding provisions of the 1980 Act. For provisions corresponding to the above cited sections of the 1946 Act, see sections 408, 901(6), 901(8), and 904 of the 1980 Act (22 U.S.C. 3968, 4081(6), 4081(8), 4084).

##### CODIFICATION

Section is based on section 203 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, §203], Oct. 12, 1979, 93 Stat. 657.