



## An Act

To amend the Alaska Omnibus Act to provide assistance to the State of Alaska for the reconstruction of areas damaged by the earthquake of March 1964 and subsequent seismic waves, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "1964 Amendments to the Alaska Omnibus Act".

1964 Amendments  
to the Alaska  
Omnibus Act,  
Earthquake dam-  
age.

SEC. 2. The Congress hereby recognizes that the State of Alaska has experienced extensive property loss and damage as a result of the earthquake of March 27, 1964, and subsequent seismic waves, and declares the need for special measures designed to aid and accelerate the State's efforts in providing for the reconstruction of the areas in the State devastated by this natural disaster.

SEC. 3. Section 21 of the Alaska Omnibus Act (73 Stat. 145) is amended by adding a new subsection (f) to read as follows:

48 USC prec.  
25 note.

"(f) Notwithstanding the limitation contained in subsection (f) of section 120 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to make expenditures from the emergency fund under section 125 of such title for the repair or reconstruction of highways on the Federal-aid highway systems of Alaska which have been damaged or destroyed by the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves, in accordance with the Federal share payable under subsection (a) of section 120 of such title. The increase in expenditures resulting from the difference between the Federal share authorized by this subsection and that authorized by subsection (f) of section 120 of such title shall be reimbursed to the emergency fund by an appropriation from the general fund of the Treasury: *Provided*, That such increase in expenditures shall not exceed \$15,000,000 in the aggregate."

73 Stat. 613.

73 Stat. 612.

72 Stat. 898.

SEC. 4. The Alaska Omnibus Act (73 Stat. 141) is amended by adding the following new sections at the end of section 50 thereof:

### "NEW FEDERAL LOAN ADJUSTMENTS

"SEC. 51. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to compromise or release such portion of a borrower's indebtedness under programs administered by the Farmers Home Administration in Alaska as he finds necessary because of loss resulting from the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves, and he may refinance outstanding indebtedness of applicants in Alaska for loans under section 502 of the Housing Act of 1949 for the repair, reconstruction, or replacement of dwellings or farm buildings lost, destroyed, or damaged by such causes and securing such outstanding indebtedness. Such loans may also provide for the purchase of building sites, when the original sites cannot be utilized.

Indebtedness,  
release.

63 Stat. 433.

42 USC 1472.

78 STAT. 505.

"(b) The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to compromise or release such portion of a borrower's indebtedness under programs administered by the Rural Electrification Administration in Alaska as he finds necessary because of loss, destruction, or damage of property resulting from the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves.

78 STAT. 506.

"SEC. 52. The Housing and Home Finance Administrator is authorized to compromise or release such portion of any note or other obligation held by him with respect to property in Alaska pursuant to title II of the Housing Amendments of 1955 or included within the revolving fund for liquidating programs established by the Independent Offices Appropriation Act of 1955, as he finds necessary because of loss, destruction, or damage to facilities securing such obligations by the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves.

69 Stat. 642;

70 Stat. 1114;

75 Stat. 175.

42 USC 1491-1497.

68 Stat. 272.

## "URBAN RENEWAL

Grants, author-  
ization.

70 Stat. 1101.  
42 USC 1462.

63 Stat. 416;  
75 Stat. 166.  
42 USC 1453.

"SEC. 53. The Housing and Home Finance Administrator is authorized to enter into contracts for grants not exceeding \$25,000,000 for urban renewal projects in Alaska, including open land projects, under section 111 of the Housing Act of 1949, which he determines will aid the communities in which they are located in reconstruction and redevelopment made necessary by the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves. Such authorization shall be in addition to and separate from any grant authorization contained in section 103(b) of said Act.

"The Administrator may increase the capital grant for a project assisted under this section to not more than 90 per centum of net project cost where he determines that a major portion of the project area has either been rendered unusable as a result of the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves or is needed in order adequately to provide, in accordance with the urban renewal plan for the project, new locations for persons, businesses, and facilities displaced by the earthquake."

## "EXTENSION OF TERM OF HOME DISASTER LOANS

"SEC. 54. Loans made pursuant to paragraph (1) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (72 Stat. 387), as amended (15 U.S.C. 636(b)), for the purpose of replacing, reconstructing, or repairing dwellings in Alaska damaged or destroyed by the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves, may have a maturity of up to thirty years: *Provided*, That the provisions of section 7(c) of said Act shall not be applicable to such loans.

## "MODIFICATION OF CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS

"SEC. 55. The Chief of Engineers, under the direction of the Secretary of the Army, is hereby authorized to make such modifications to previously authorized civil works projects in Alaska adversely affected by the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves as he finds necessary to meet changed conditions and to provide for current and reasonably prospective requirements of the communities they serve, at an estimated cost of \$10,000,000.

## "PURCHASE OF ALASKA STATE BONDS

69 Stat. 643.  
42 USC 1492-  
1494.

78 STAT. 506.  
78 STAT. 507.

"SEC. 56. The Housing and Home Finance Administrator is authorized to purchase, in accordance with the provisions of sections 202(b), 203, and 204 of title II of the Housing Amendments of 1955, the securities and obligations of, or make loans to, the State of Alaska to finance any part of the programs needed to carry out the reconstruction activities in Alaska related to the 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves or to complete capital improvements begun prior to the earthquake: *Provided*, That the aggregate amount of such purchase or loan shall not exceed \$25,000,000.

## "RETIREMENT OR ADJUSTMENT OF OUTSTANDING MORTGAGE OBLIGATION

"SEC. 57. For the purpose of enabling the State of Alaska to retire or adjust outstanding home mortgage obligations or other real property liens secured by one to four family homes which were severely damaged or destroyed in the March 1964 earthquake and subsequent seismic waves, the President is authorized to make additional grants to the State of Alaska in an amount not to exceed a total of \$5,500,000 to match, on a fifty-fifty basis, any funds provided by the State to pay the costs of retiring or adjusting such mortgage obligations. In order to be approved, a State application for a grant for carrying out the purpose of this section must: (1) be in accordance with a plan sub-

mitted by the State, to be approved by the President, for the implementation of the purpose of this section; (2) designate the State agency for retiring or adjusting said mortgage obligations; (3) provide that the mortgagor shall be required to absorb the damage loss to the entire extent of his equity interest in the property and also agree to pay at least \$1,000 of the outstanding mortgage balance; (4) provide that no payments for retiring or adjusting mortgage obligations on a single property shall exceed \$30,000; (5) provide regulations to assure equitable treatment among home owners and to prevent unjustified payments or gains to the State, mortgagees or mortgagors; and (6) provide that the State agency will make such reports, in such form and containing such information as the President may from time to time require, and give the President, upon demand, access to the records on which such reports are based." Report to President.

#### APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 5. There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, which shall be available for obligation until June 30, 1967. There is also authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for the expenses of such advisory commissions or committees as the President may establish in connection with the reconstruction and development planning of the State of Alaska. The total amount authorized to be appropriated pursuant to this section shall not exceed \$55,650,000.

#### TERMINATION DATE

SEC. 6. The authority contained in this Act shall expire on June 30, 1967, except that such expiration shall not affect the payment of expenditures for any obligation or commitment entered into under this Act prior to June 30, 1967.

#### REPORTING

SEC. 7. The President shall report semiannually during the term of this Act to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House on the actions taken under this Act by the various Federal agencies. The first such report shall be submitted not later than February 1, 1965, and shall cover the period ending December 31, 1964. Report to Congress.

Approved August 19, 1964.

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 1521 accompanying H. R. 11438 (Comm. on Interior & Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORT No. 1117 (Comm. on Interior & Insular Affairs).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 110 (1964):

June 30: Considered and passed Senate.

July 21: Considered and passed House, amended, in lieu of H. R. 11438.

July 23: Senate considered motion to concur in House amendment.

July 24: Conference requested by Senate.

Aug. 7: House agreed to conference report.

Aug. 8: Senate agreed to conference report.