

[PUBLIC LAW 248—78TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 83—2D SESSION]

[S. 1633]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the training of nurses for the armed forces, governmental and civilian hospitals, health agencies, and war industries, through grants to institutions providing such training, and for other purposes", approved June 15, 1943, so as to provide for the full participation of institutions of the United States in the program for the training of nurses, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the training of nurses for the armed forces, governmental and civilian hospitals, health agencies, and war industries, through grants to institutions providing such training, and for other purposes", approved June 15, 1943 (Public Law 74, Seventy-eighth Congress), is amended by striking out, in section 7 thereof, the words "is authorized to procure and provide insignia" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "is authorized, without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes, to procure and provide uniforms and insignia"; and by adding at the end of such Act the following new sections:

"SEC. 11. (a) The head of any department, establishment, or other Federal agency is hereby authorized to request and accept transfers of student nurses, transferable pursuant to subsections (e) and (f) of section 2, to any Federal hospital operated by his agency in the continental United States, exclusive of Alaska, and to provide for the continued training of such student nurses requisite to graduation: *Provided*, That the period of training in no case shall extend beyond the period required for graduation by the institution from which the student nurse was transferred, but may be terminated at any time prior thereto as the interests of the service may require.

"(b) During the period of such training student nurses shall be entitled to a stipend at such uniform monthly rate as may be prescribed by the President, and shall be entitled to (1) travel expenses as authorized by the Subsistence Expense Act of 1926, as amended, including travel incident to their initial transfer and in returning to the location from which transferred upon completion or termination of the period of training; (2) quarters, subsistence, and laundry (including laundering of uniforms) while at Federal hospitals; and (3) necessary medical and hospital care in Federal hospital facilities: *Provided*, That no student nurse receiving a stipend, fixed pursuant to this section, shall be entitled to any overtime or additional compensation under the War Overtime Pay Act of 1943. The appropriate appropriations of the agencies concerned are hereby made available for the purposes of this section.

"(c) Should any student nurse so transferred and in training suffer disability or death while in the performance of duty, she or her

dependents shall be entitled, under the same conditions and to the same extent, to the benefits which are provided for civil employees of the United States by the Act of September 7, 1916, as amended (39 Stat. 742; 5 U. S. C. 751-793).

"SEC. 12. The Surgeon General shall designate distinctive insignia to be worn by nurses who have been graduated pursuant to training received under this Act and who in accordance with their undertaking are engaged in essential civilian nursing services for the duration of the present war. Such insignia and the uniforms and insignia designated by the Surgeon General in accordance with section 2 to be worn by student nurses receiving training and courses under plans approved pursuant to this Act, or any distinctive part of such insignia or uniform, or any insignia or uniform any part of which is similar to a distinctive part thereof, shall not be worn by any unauthorized person, under the penalties provided by the Act of June 3, 1916 (39 Stat. 216, as amended; 10 U. S. C. 1393), for the unlawful wearing of the uniform of the United States Army, Navy, or Marine Corps.

Approved March 4, 1944.

NLM