

EXPEDITING THE SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS AND
ACCOUNTS INCIDENT TO CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL
ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS

MAY 20 (legislative day, MAY 15), 1942.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 5636]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5636) to expedite the settlement of claims and accounts incident to certain agricultural adjustment programs, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report thereon favorably with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

An explanation of the bill is incorporated in the House report which is attached hereto and made a part of this report.

[H. Rept. No. 1831, 77th Cong., 2d sess.]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5636) to expedite the settlement of claims and accounts incident to certain agricultural adjustment programs, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass with the following amendment:

Page 2, line 6, strike out the figures "\$45,000" and insert in lieu thereof the figures "\$25,000".

STATEMENT

This legislation is proposed for the purpose of expediting the settlement of claims and accounts incident to the agricultural adjustment programs in effect prior to January 6, 1936, under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 (48 Stat. 31), amendments thereto and related legislation, and for other purposes. It covers three items.

The first section provides a final date (120 calendar days after enactment of the legislation) for filing claims in connection with these programs and a date (180 calendar days after enactment of the legislation), after which any unobligated balance of the appropriation, "Payments for agricultural adjustment," made by the Supplemental Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1936 (49 Stat. 1116), as amended, shall be covered into the surplus fund of the Treasury, except an amount not to exceed \$25,000 which shall remain available thereafter for not more than 1 calendar year for administrative expenses incident to carrying out the purposes of the act. Such expenses would include those incidental to making collections, cor-

responsibility, disposition of records in State and county offices, and other work in connection with bringing to a conclusion the activities of these programs.

The second section provides for the relief of disbursing officers and certifying officers by authorizing the Comptroller General of the United States to allow credit in the accounts of disbursing officers and to refrain from raising a charge against the officers certifying vouchers for payments made in connection with such agricultural programs administered through the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

The third section provides for the disposition of claims on the part of the United States against persons who without fraud on their part, have received payment under these programs in excess of the amounts to which they were entitled. This would be done if the Secretary of Agriculture, after such investigation as he deems necessary, certifies that to require a refund would be inequitable or that appropriate efforts to obtain such refunds have failed and there is no reasonable prospect of labor obtaining such refunds.

This legislation has been requested by the Department of Agriculture, and has been approved by the Bureau of the Budget.

Mr. 20 (legislative day, 21st, 1932—Ordered to be printed)

Mr. Harlan, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, submitted the following

REPORT

(To accompany H. R. 5536)

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5536) to expedite the settlement of claims and accounts incident to certain agricultural adjustment programs, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report thereon favorably with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

An explanation of the bill is incorporated in the House report which is attached hereto and made a part of this report.

(H. R. 5536, 1932, 2d sess.)

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5536) to expedite the settlement of claims and accounts incident to certain agricultural adjustment programs, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report thereon with the following amendment:

Page 2, line 4, strike out the figures "\$25,000" and insert in lieu thereof the figures "\$25,000."

STATEMENT

This legislation is proposed for the purpose of expediting the settlement of claims and accounts incident to the agricultural adjustment programs in effect prior to January 8, 1933, under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 (48 Stat. 211), amendments thereto and related legislation, and for other purposes.

It covers three items:

The first section provides a final date (120 calendar days after enactment of the legislation) for the claims to be presented to the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with these programs and a date (180 calendar days after enactment of the legislation) after which any unliquidated balance of the appropriation "Payments for agricultural adjustment," made by the Supplemental Appropriation Act, Fiscal year 1934 (49 Stat. 1116), as amended, shall be covered into the surplus fund of the Treasury, except an amount not to exceed \$25,000 which shall remain available thereafter for not more than 1 calendar year for administrative expenses incident to carrying out the purposes of the act. Such expenses would include those incidental to making collections, cor-