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SENATE

} REPORT
No. 1262

AMENDMENTS OF THE CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR (A CENTURY OF PROGRESS) ACTS

FEBRUARY 21, 1933.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. KING, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. J. Res. 561]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 561), amending section 2 of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution authorizing the President, under certain conditions, to invite the participation of other nations in the Chicago World's Fair, providing for the admission of their exhibits, and for other purposes," approved February 5, 1929; and amending section 7 of the act entitled "An act to protect the copyrights and patents of foreign exhibitors at A Century of Progress (Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration), to be held at Chicago, Ill., in 1933," approved July 19, 1932, having had the same under consideration, report it back to the Senate without amendment and recommend that the joint resolution do pass.

The text of the report (No. 1888) submitted to the House on January 20, 1933, by Mr. Collier, from the Committee on Ways and Means, is attached hereto.

HOUSE REPORT NO. 1888

The Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 561) amending section 2 of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution authorizing the President, under certain conditions, to invite the participation of other nations in the Chicago World's Fair, providing for the admission of their exhibits, and for other purposes," approved February 5, 1929; and amending section 7 of the act entitled "An act to protect the copyrights and patents of foreign exhibitors at A Century of Progress (Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration), to be held at Chicago, Ill., in 1933," approved July 19, 1932, having had the same under consideration, report it back to the House without amendment and recommend that the joint resolution do pass.

This joint resolution amends legislation heretofore passed by Congress providing for the admission without payment of duty of articles imported from foreign countries for the purpose of exhibition at the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration, known as A Century of Progress; for the protection of the copyrights and patents of foreign exhibitors at said fair; and for the reimbursement by said fair to the Federal Government of all expenses incurred in carrying out the purposes of said legislation.

The nature and effect of the pending joint resolution, as it relates to the collection of customs duties, are fully shown by the following letter from the Treasury Department:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 19, 1933.

Hon. JAMES W. COLLIER,
Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, United States.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I have received from the Hon. Carl R. Chindblom, a member of your committee, a copy of H. J. Res. 561, with a request that I furnish you with an expression of the views of this department with regard to it.

The proposed joint resolution would amend section 2 of the joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution authorizing the President, under certain conditions, to invite the participation of other nations in the Chicago World's Fair, providing for the admission of their exhibits, and for other purposes," approved February 5, 1929, and amend section 7 of the act entitled "An act to protect the copyrights and patents of foreign exhibitors at A Century of Progress (Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration), to be held at Chicago, Ill., in 1933," approved July 10, 1932.

It would amend the existing statute in favor of articles imported for exhibition at A Century of Progress to permit sales of imported articles for delivery during the exposition, to provide that any duties assessed would be at the rates in effect at the time the goods are withdrawn, rather than at those in effect at the time of importation, and to provide that, in the final appraisalment of goods subject to duty, allowance shall be made for diminution or depreciation due to incidental handling or exposure. One or more of all these provisions have appeared in several previous acts of Congress in favor of expositions similar to that to be held by A Century of Progress, and the Treasury Department has encountered no difficulty in their administration.

The joint resolution would further amend the existing statute to provide that the marking requirements of the general tariff laws shall be enforced only with respect to articles imported under its provisions which shall be withdrawn for consumption or use in the United States, and that, with respect to such articles, no penalties shall be assessed for failure to have the articles marked at the time of their importation. It would also provide that articles previously entered without payment of duty for exhibition under any general tariff law may be transferred to and entered for exhibition at the Century of Progress Exposition.

The provision in the existing statute that governmental expenses incurred in connection with the exhibition shall be repaid to the Government is amended to provide clearly that these repayments shall be deposited as refunds to the appropriations from which they have been paid.

Section 2 of H. J. Res. 561 does not relate to the work of this department.

If the joint resolution is enacted into law, as it is now drafted, I do not believe the Treasury Department will encounter any difficulties in administering the provisions relating to its functions.

Very truly yours,

A. A. BALLANTINE,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Legislation heretofore passed provides that all expenses incurred by the United States in the administration of the customs laws and the laws relating to copyrights and patents, in connection with the services to be rendered the fair in the administration of those laws, shall be paid to the Treasury of the United States by a Century of Progress (the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration), under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Librarian of Congress, and the Commissioner of Patents, respectively. Under this arrange-

ment all such reimbursements or payments would go into the general fund of the Treasury and it would be necessary for the departments involved to obtain special appropriations to pay the expenditures incurred by them. It is thought desirable to avoid the necessity for such special appropriations. The pending joint resolution therefore provides that the receipts from reimbursements to the Government, paid by the fair, shall be deposited as refunds to the appropriations from which paid, instead of being covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts, as would be required by the act entitled: "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, and for other purposes." It will be found that the tariff act of 1930, in section 524, contains this identical provision with reference to reimbursable charges for labor, services, and other expenses connected with the customs. There would seem to be no reason why this method should not be pursued in regard to the reimbursable expenses incurred by both the Treasury Department and the Librarian of Congress and the Commissioner of Patents in the present instance. As is apparent, this legislation involves no expenditure by the Government, but on the contrary requires complete reimbursement to the Government, without the necessity of appropriations, of all expenses incurred and paid by the departments involved.

Since the passage of the original joint resolution (Pub. Res. No. 82, 70th Cong., approved Feb. 5, 1929), authorizing the President, under conditions which have been fully met, to invite the nations of the world to participate in this fair, the name has been changed from the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration to A Century of Progress, the purpose being, as stated in the report to the House by the Committee on Ways and Means upon that resolution, to "portray intelligently, entertainingly, and educationally the modern spirit underlying the progress of each industry, and of agriculture, art, drama, and sport," during the last 100 years. Its sponsors stated their hope to be that the exposition might "express the new spirit of the world to-day, which is the utilization for the work of man of the knowledge which science has accumulated, and the application of it through collective and coordinated effort and action in industry, agriculture, and social organization." Your committee are informed that the preparations for the fair are adequately advanced to insure its full operation during the period planned, being from June 1 to November 1 of the present year (1933). It is therefore urgent that the legislation hereby reported be passed during the present session of Congress in order to serve and promote the participation of foreign nations who have accepted the invitation of our Government to bring exhibits to the fair.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 2a of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the resolution are shown as follows: Existing law proposed to be omitted is inclosed in black brackets; new matter is shown in italic type; and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman type.

SECTION 2 OF THE JOINT RESOLUTION APPROVED FEBRUARY 5, 1929

SEC. 2. That all articles which shall be imported from foreign countries for the purpose of exhibition at [said celebration] *the exposition to be held by and known as A Century of Progress, in section 1 of this joint resolution called the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration, or for use in constructing, installing, or maintaining foreign buildings or exhibits at the said exposition, upon which articles there shall be a tariff or customs duty, shall be admitted [free of] without payment of such tariff, customs duty, [customs] fees, or charges under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe; but it shall be [lawful] lawful, at any time during or at the close of the said [celebration] exposition, to sell [for delivery at the close thereof] any [goods or property imported and actually on exhibition therein,] articles, provided for herein, subject to such regulations for the security of the revenue and for the collection of import duties as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe: Provided, That all such articles, when sold or withdrawn for consumption or use in the United States, shall be subject to the [duty,] duties, if any, imposed upon such articles by the revenue laws in force at the date of their*

[importation and to the terms of the tariff laws in force at the time:] *withdrawals; and on such articles, which shall have suffered diminution or deterioration from incidental handling or exposure, the duties, if payable, shall be assessed according to the appraised value at the time of withdrawal: Provided further, That imported articles provided for herein shall not be subject to any marking requirements of the general tariff laws, except when such articles are withdrawn for consumption or use in the United States, in which case they shall not be released from customs custody until properly marked but no additional duty shall be assessed because such articles were not sufficiently marked when imported into the United States: Provided further, That articles which have been admitted without payment of duty for exhibition under any general tariff law may be accorded the privilege of transfer to and entry for exhibition at the said exposition under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe: And provided further, That all necessary expenses incurred including salaries of customs officials in charge of imported articles, shall be [paid to the Treasury] reimbursed to the Government of the United States by A Century of Progress, also known as the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration [corporation], under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.*

SECTION 7 OF ACT APPROVED JULY 19, 1932

SEC. 7. All necessary expenses incurred by the United States in carrying out the provisions of this act shall be [paid to the Treasury] *reimbursed to the Government of the United States by A Century of Progress [(The Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration)], also known as the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration, under regulations [of] to be prescribed by the Librarian of Congress and [of] by the Commissioner of Patents, respectively.*

SECTION 3 OF THE PENDING RESOLUTION

Section 524 of the tariff act of 1930, to which reference is made in the joint resolution hereby reported, reads as follows:

"SEC. 524. Deposit of reimbursable charges: Receipts from reimbursable charges for labor, services, and other expenses connected with the customs, shall be deposited as a refund to the appropriation from which paid, instead of being covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts as provided by the act entitled 'An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, and for other purposes,' approved March 4, 1907."

In conformity with this provision of existing law, section 3 is proposed in the pending resolution to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. That the receipts from reimbursements to the Government of the United States paid by A Century of Progress, also known as the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration, as provided in the joint resolution entitled 'Joint resolution authorizing the President, under certain conditions, to invite the participation of other nations in the Chicago World's Fair, providing for the admission of their exhibits, and for other purposes,' approved February 5, 1929, as hereby amended, and in the act entitled 'An act to protect the copyrights and patents of foreign exhibitors at A Century of Progress (Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration), to be held at Chicago, Illinois, in 1933,' approved July 19, 1932, as hereby amended, shall be deposited as refunds to the appropriations from which paid, instead of being covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts as provided by the act entitled 'An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, and for other purposes,' approved March 4, 1907, in the manner provided for receipts from reimbursable charges for labor, services, and other expenses connected with the customs, in section 524 of the tariff act of 1930."

