



Public Law 90-480
90th Congress, S. 222
August 12, 1968

An Act

To insure that certain buildings financed with Federal funds are so designed and constructed as to be accessible to the physically handicapped.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act, the term "building" means any building or facility (other than (A) a privately owned residential structure and (B) any building or facility on a military installation designed and constructed primarily for use by able bodied military personnel) the intended use for which either will require that such building or facility be accessible to the public, or may result in the employment or residence therein of physically handicapped persons, which building or facility is—

Public build-
ings.
Accessibility
to physically
handicapped.

82 STAT. 718

82 STAT. 719

(1) to be constructed or altered by or on behalf of the United States;

(2) to be leased in whole or in part by the United States after the date of enactment of this Act after construction or alteration in accordance with plans and specifications of the United States; or

(3) to be financed in whole or in part by a grant or a loan made by the United States after the date of enactment of this Act if such building or facility is subject to standards for design, construction, or alteration issued under authority of the law authorizing such grant or loan.

SEC. 2. The Administrator of General Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, is authorized to prescribe such standards for the design, construction, and alteration of buildings (other than residential structures subject to this Act and buildings, structures, and facilities of the Department of Defense subject to this Act) as may be necessary to insure that physically handicapped persons will have ready access to, and use of, such buildings.

Standards.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, is authorized to prescribe such standards for the design, construction, and alteration of buildings which are residential structures subject to this Act as may be necessary to insure that physically handicapped persons will have ready access to, and use of, such buildings.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, is authorized to prescribe such standards for the design, construction, and alteration of buildings, structures, and facilities of the Department of Defense subject to this Act as may be necessary to insure that physically handicapped persons will have ready access to, and use of, such buildings.

SEC. 5. Every building designed, constructed, or altered after the effective date of a standard issued under this Act which is applicable to such building, shall be designed, constructed, or altered in accordance with such standard.

Applicability.

SEC. 6. The Administrator of General Services, with respect to standards issued under section 2 of this Act, and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, with respect to standards issued under section 3 of this Act, and the Secretary of Defense with respect to standards issued under section 4 of this Act, is authorized—

(1) to modify or waive any such standard, on a case-by-case basis, upon application made by the head of the department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States concerned, and

Waiver.

August 12, 1968

upon a determination by the Administrator or Secretary, as the case may be, that such modification or waiver is clearly necessary, and

Surveys and investigations. (2) to conduct such surveys and investigations as he deems necessary to insure compliance with such standards.

Approved August 12, 1968.

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 1532 accompanying H. R. 6589 (Comm. on Public Works) and No. 1787 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORT No. 538 (Comm. on Public Works).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 113 (1967): Aug. 25, considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 114 (1968): June 17, considered and passed House, amended, in lieu of H. R. 6589.
July 26, House agreed to conference report.
July 29, Senate agreed to conference report.