



LEPP LEGISLATION

LEPP's legislative authority stems from the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended. Sections 607 and 608 of that legislation authorize USAID to provide Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) access to excess property of the Federal Government for their programs of international humanitarian and development assistance.

Sec. 607.⁸⁴⁸ Furnishing of Services and Commodities.—(a) Whenever the President determines it to be consistent with and in furtherance of the purposes of part I and within the limitations of this Act, any agency of the United States Government is authorized to furnish services and commodities on an advance-of-funds or reimbursement basis to friendly countries, international organizations, the American Red Cross, and voluntary nonprofit relief agencies registered with and approved by the Agency for International Development ⁸⁴⁹ (including foreign voluntary nonprofit relief agencies so registered and approved when no United States voluntary nonprofit relief agency is available).⁸⁵⁰ Such advances or reimbursements may be credited to the currently applicable appropriation, account, or fund of the agency concerned and shall be available for the purposes for which such appropriation, account, or fund is authorized to be used, under the following circumstances:

(1) Advances or reimbursements which are received under this section within one hundred and eighty days after the close of the fiscal year in which such services and commodities are delivered.

(2) Advances or reimbursements received pursuant to agreements executed under this section in which reimbursement will not be completed within one hundred and eighty days after the close of the fiscal year in which such services and commodities are delivered: *Provided*, That such agreements require the payment of interest at the current rate established pursuant to section 2(b)(1)(B) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (59 Stat. 526), and repayment of such principal and interest does not exceed a period of three years from the date of signing of the agreement to provide the service: *Provided further*, that funds available for this paragraph in any fiscal year shall not exceed \$1,000,000 of the total funds authorized for use in such fiscal year by chapter 1 of part I of this Act, and shall be available only to the extent provided in appropriation Acts. "Interest shall accrue as of the date of disbursement to the agency or organization providing such services."⁸⁵¹

(b) ⁸⁵² When any agency of the United States Government provides services on an advance-of-funds or reimbursable basis under this section, such agency may contract with individuals for personal service abroad or in the United States to perform such services or to replace officers or employees of the United States Government who are assigned by the agency to provide such services. Such individuals shall not be regarded as employees of the United States Government for the purpose of any law administered by the Civil Service Commission.⁸⁵³

(c) ⁸⁵² (1) Except as provided in subsection (d),⁸⁵⁴ no Government-owned excess property shall be made available under this section, section 608, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of part I of this Act, unless, before the shipment of such property for use in a specified country (or transfer, if the property is already in such country), the agency administering such part I has approved such shipment (or transfer) and made a written determination—

(A) ⁸⁵⁴ that there is a need for such property in the quantity requested and that such property is suitable for the purpose requested;

(B) ⁸⁵⁴as to the status and responsibility of the designated end-user and his ability effectively to use and maintain such property; and

(C) ⁸⁵⁴that the residual value, serviceability, and appearance of such property would not reflect unfavorably on the image of the United States and would justify the costs of packing, crating, handling, transportation, and other accessorial costs, and that the residual value at least equals the total of these costs.

(d) ⁸⁵⁵The Secretary of State, acting through the Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, is authorized to transfer to any friendly country, international organization, the American Red Cross, or other voluntary nonprofit relief agency described in subsection (a), Government-owned excess property made available under this section or section 608 in order to support activities carried out under part I of this Act which are designed to enhance environmental protection in foreign countries if the Secretary of State makes a written determination—

(1) That there is a need for such property in the quantity requested and that such property is suitable for the purpose requested;

(2) As to the status and responsibility of the designated end-user and his ability effectively to use and maintain such property; and

(3) that the residual value, serviceability, and appearance of such property would not reflect unfavorably on the image of the United States and would justify the costs of packing, crating, handling, transportation, and other accessorial costs, and that the residual value at least equals the total of these costs.

Sec. 608. ⁸⁵⁶**Advance Acquisition of Property.**—(a) It is the sense of the Congress that in furnishing assistance under part I excess personal property, or (if a substantial savings would occur) other property already owned by an agency of the United States Government, should be utilized wherever practicable in lieu of or supplementary to the procurement of new items for United States-assisted projects and programs.⁸⁵⁷ The President is authorized to maintain in a separate account, which shall, notwithstanding section 1210 of the General Appropriation Act, 1951 (64 Stat. 765), be free from fiscal year limitations, \$5,000,000 of funds made available under chapter 1 of part I,⁸⁵⁸ which may be used to pay costs (including personnel costs) ⁸⁵⁹of acquisition, storage, renovation and rehabilitation, packing, crating, handling transportation, and related costs of property classified as domestic or foreign excess property pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.), any property available from an agency of the United States Government ⁸⁶⁰or other property, in advance of known requirements therefor for use in furtherance of the purposes of part I: *Provided*, That the amount of property classified as domestic excess property pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, held at any one time pursuant to this section shall not exceed \$15,000,000 in total original acquisition cost. Property acquired pursuant to the preceding sentence may be furnished (1) pursuant to any provision of part I for which funds are authorized for the furnishing of assistance, in which case the separate account established pursuant to this section shall be repaid from funds made available for such provision for all costs incurred, or (2) pursuant to section 607, in which case such separate account shall be repaid in accordance with the provisions of that section for all costs incurred.

(b) Property classified as domestic excess property under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, shall not be transferred to the agency primarily responsible for administering part I for use pursuant to the provisions of part I or section 607 unless (1) such property is transferred for use exclusively by an agency of the United States Government, or (2) it has been determined in the same manner as provided for surplus property in section 203(j) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, that such property is not needed for donation pursuant to that subsection. The foregoing restrictions shall not apply to the transfer in any fiscal year for use pursuant to the provisions of part I of amounts of such property with a total original acquisition cost to the United States Government not exceeding \$45,000,000.