and Commerce or the person or persons whom he may designate for the purpose."

Section 2.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3.—This Act shall take effect ninety days after its approval.

Approved, April 15, 1946.

[No. 328]

[Approved, April 15, 1946]

AN ACT

TO ORGANIZE THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL LUNCHROOMS IN PUERTO RICO; TO CREATE THE SCHOOL LUNCHROOM DIVISION UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

WHEREAS, years ago the first school lunchrooms in Puerto Rico were established in some public and private schools of urban districts to furnish small group of poor children a meager lunch so that they could attend school the whole day;

WHEREAS, said lunchrooms were maintained by private institutions, and funds of the Racing Commission and other sources were later appropriated by law in order to extend their benefit;

WHEREAS, their main purpose was to meet a physiological need in order to insure better school attendance;

WHEREAS, said lunchrooms have lately grown in proportion to the need existing therefor, and a program has been established which has among its purposes that of assisting the child in his physical, mental, and social growth, and of making the lunchrooms an integral part of the general school curriculum by teaching the child good manners and habits, and a proper behavior;

WHEREAS, it is the desire of The People of Puerto Rico to promote by all possible means the physical, mental, and social betterment of the school children attending the school lunchrooms,

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with said purposes, there is hereby created in the Department of Education, and under the direction of the Commissioner of Education, a division which shall be known as the "School Lunchroom Division."
Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—The administration of school lunchrooms in Puerto Rico is hereby organized and a School Lunchroom Division is hereby created which shall be under the direction of the Commissioner of Education.

Section 2.—The School Lunchroom Division shall have the following duties:

1. To administer and keep an accounting record of, in accordance with the laws in force, all the sums appropriated for school lunchrooms by the Insular Government, and such funds as may be placed at its disposal by the Federal Government, and by associations, societies, or individuals.

2. To purchase, store, and distribute all the foodstuffs, equipment, and materials obtained for the use thereof.

3. To select and appoint all the personnel for the lunchrooms.

4. To accept donations of property, funds, foodstuffs, equipment, or materials.

5. To prescribe rules and regulations for the administration and direction of school lunchrooms.

6. To organize training programs for the personnel.

7. To prepare statistics and any other data and reports necessary.

8. To carry out any other tasks in connection with school lunchrooms that may be assigned to it by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 3.—In order that the Commissioner of Education may comply with all the provisions of this Act, he is hereby empowered:

1. To organize the School Lunchroom Division in his Department so as to comply with the duties hereby entrusted to said Division, appointing the necessary administrative and technical personnel; Provided, That the employees now holding positions in the institution known as the “Commodities Distribution Project” shall continue in the School Lunchrooms Division in similar capacities.

2. To establish an easy, simple, and efficient procurement and payment system, as well as a section for the

Decrétese por la Asamblea Legislativa de Puerto Rico:

Artículo 1.—Por la presente se organiza la administración de los comedores escolares de Puerto Rico, y se crea la División de Comedores Escolares bajo la dirección del Comisionado de Instrucción.

Artículo 2.—Los siguientes serán los deberes de la División de Comedores Escolares:

1. Administrar y contabilizar, de acuerdo con las leyes vigentes, todos los fondos que se asignen para comedores escolares por el Gobierno Insular, y aquellos que se pongan a su disposición por el Gobierno Federal, asociaciones, sociedades o individuos.

2. Comprar, almacenar y distribuir todos los alimentos, equipo y materiales que se adquieran para el uso de los mismos.

3. Seleccionar y nombrar todo el personal para los comedores.

4. Aceptar donaciones de propiedades, fondos, alimentos, equipo o materiales.

5. Promulgar reglas y reglamentos para la administración y dirección de los comedores escolares.

6. Organizar cursos de entrenamiento para el personal.

7. Preparar estadísticas y cualesquiera otros datos e informes que sean necesarios.

8. Llevar a cabo cualesquiera otras gestiones que sean asignadas por el Comisionado de Instrucción en relación con los comedores escolares.

Artículo 3.—Para que el Comisionado de Instrucción cumpla con todas las disposiciones de la presente Ley, se le faculta para:

1. Organizar la División de Comedores Escolares en su Departamento en forma tal que dé cumplimiento a los deberes que por la presente Ley se le encomienden a esta División, nombrando el personal administrativo y técnico que sea necesario; Disponiéndose, que los empleados que actualmente desempeñan cargos en la institución denominada “Distribución de Alimentos para Comedores Escolares” (Commodities Distribution Project) continuarán formando parte de la División de Comedores Escolares en categorías similares.

2. Establecer un sistema fácil, sencillo y eficiente de compras y pagos así como una sección para el almacenaje y
storage and distribution of foodstuffs; Provided, That for the purposes of school lunchrooms purchases the provisions of "Act No. 150, approved May 9, 1945, creating the Service Office of the Government of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes," shall not be applicable.

(3) To establish through rules and regulations the necessary qualifications for the selection of the personnel for school lunchrooms. Said employees shall not be subject to the provisions of the Classified Civil Service Act and shall be considered as nonclassified civil service employees, the same as public school teachers; Provided, That the employees appointed to serve in the school lunchrooms shall not be subject to the provisions of Act No. 23, approved July 16, 1935, "providing for the retirement of the permanent officials and employees of the Government of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes;" of Act No. 161, approved May 10, 1945, "to create a Pension Fund for the Teachers of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes," nor of Act No. 150, approved May 15, 1937, "providing for the creation of a Savings and Loan Fund for the employees of the Insular Government of Puerto Rico, to create an insurance system, and for other purposes;" And provided, further, That any person accepting a position in the school lunchrooms, and appointed therefor who at the time of receiving and accepting such appointment is holding a position subject to the provisions of said Acts, may continue paying his quotas thereto and enjoying all the rights granted to him thereby.

(4) To accept, in the name of the Government of Puerto Rico, donations of real and personal property, funds, foodstuffs, equipment, or materials by or without a contract; Provided, That in cases in which said contracts are necessary, the same shall be accepted after it has been ascertained that they do not in any sense violate the laws in force or that may be in force nor further bind The People of Puerto Rico than within the attributes granted to said Commissioner of Education by the Government of Puerto Rico.

(3) Establecer por reglamento los requisitos necesarios para la selección del personal para comedores escolares. Estos empleados no estarán sujetos a las disposiciones de la Ley de Servicio Civil Clasificado, y serán considerados como empleados del Servicio Civil No Clasificado al igual que los profesores de Instrucción Pública, Disponiéndose, que los empleados nombrados para servicio en los comedores escolares no estarán sujetos a las disposiciones de la "Ley Núm. 23 aprobada en julio 16, 1935, Para establecer el retiro de los funcionarios y empleados permanentes del Gobierno de Puerto Rico, y para otros fines", ni a la "Ley Núm. 161, aprobada en mayo 10 de 1945, Para crear un Fondo de Pensiones para los Maestros de Puerto Rico, y para otros fines," ni a la "Ley Núm. 150, aprobada en mayo 15, 1937, Proveyendo para la creación de un Fondo de Ahorros y Préstamos a los Empleados del Gobierno Insular de Puerto Rico, para crear un sistema de seguros, y para otros fines", Y disponiéndose, además, que cualquier persona que acepte un cargo en los comedores escolares y sea nombrado y que al tiempo de extenderle y aceptar tal nombramiento estuviere ocupando un cargo sujeto a las disposiciones de dichas leyes, podrá continuar contribuyendo a las mismas conservando todos los derechos que éstas le conceden.

(4) Aceptar, a nombre del Gobierno de Puerto Rico, donaciones de propiedades, muebles e inmuebles, fondos, alimentos, equipo o materiales mediante contratos o sin los mismos, Disponiéndose, que en los casos en que sean necesarios dichos contratos, éstos serán aceptados después de asegurarse que los mismos no violan en ningún sentido las leyes que están o pueden estar vigentes ni comprometan a El Pueblo de Puerto Rico más allá de las atribuciones concedidas a dicho Comisionado de Instrucción por el Gobierno de Puerto Rico.
(5) To prescribe the rules and regulations necessary to insure a successful operation of the school lunchrooms.

(6) To organize training courses for all the personnel of school lunchrooms so as to attain greater efficiency and economy in the operation thereof.

(7) To prepare all statistical and other data necessary in connection with the operation of the school lunchroom program.

(8) To take any other necessary steps for the improvement and efficient operation of the school lunchroom program.

Section 4.—All the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commissioner of Education under paragraph (5) of Section 2 of this Act shall have the force of law.

Section 5.—If a part of this Act is held invalid by a competent court, the other parts hereof shall remain in full force.

Section 6.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 7.—This Act shall take effect July 1, 1946.

Approved, April 15, 1946.

[No. 329]

[Approved, April 15, 1946]

AN ACT

TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF TWO MILLION (2,000,000) DOLLARS TO THE PUERTO RICO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, TO CARRY OUT CERTAIN OF THE PROJECTS RESULTING FROM THE EFFECTUATION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS PURSUANT TO ACT NO. 125, APPROVED MAY 7, 1942; TO DIRECT THE AUDITOR AND THE TREASURER OF PUERTO RICO TO PLACE THE SUM HEREBY APPROPRIATED TO THE DISPOSAL OF THE PUERTO RICO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—The sum of two million (2,000,000) dollars is hereby appropriated to the Puerto Rico Transportation Authority from any funds in the Treasury of Puerto Rico not otherwise appropriated, to be used for capital improvements pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 125 of May 7, 1942; Provided, That out of this sum, one