

Provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended through June 30, 1964 (8 U.S.C. 1182, 1201, 1224):

Especially sections 212(a)(1)-(7) (excludable medical conditions); 212(g) (admission of certain aliens with tuberculosis subject to controls prescribed by Attorney General in consultation with Surgeon General); 221(d) (medical examination of visa applicants); and 234 (medical examination of arriving aliens).

Regulations:

Public Health Service: Regulations for medical examination of aliens (title 42 Code of Federal Regulations, pt. 34).

Immigration and Naturalization Service: Title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, paragraph 212.7(b) (control provisions for admission of tuberculous immigrants under waiver; requires assurance of adequate care, with reports to New York quarantine station).

PART II. DATA BEARING ON ECONOMIC ASPECTS AND IMPACTS OF THE PROGRAM

9. *Economic effects*

9(c) *Effects on business and industrial organization.*—The program has significant direct and indirect effects on business activities. International travel of persons has increased markedly in recent years and is likely to continue to expand; the effective and rapid conduct of quarantine procedures facilitates these movements while maintaining the necessary level of protection against the importation of dangerous diseases. Similarly, the facilitation of clearance of commercial carriers (i.e., vessels and airplanes) contributes to the ease and efficiency with which these business activities are carried on; to this end, the program participates in the work of the National Facilitation Committee of the Department of Commerce.

9(e) *Other benefits.*—The primary benefit of the quarantine program to the public is in the prevention of the importation and spread of communicable disease from foreign countries. As in the case of other successful preventive programs, its economic benefits are difficult to measure. However, examples of costs resulting from failure of the program may be estimated from an analysis of a hypothetical case of smallpox imported into the United States with 15 secondary cases; this was estimated at \$720,000 in direct costs. (In 1962, according to the London Times, in a smallpox epidemic in England comprising 66 primary and secondary cases, of whom one-quarter died, the direct economic costs were estimated to be approximately \$3 million.) The additional indirect costs of disruption of business and personal activities, as well as the human discomfort and anxiety, are immeasurable.

Other economic effects relate to the importation of animals and other things. For example, the importation of psittacine birds for commercial purposes is controlled. Similarly, other items involving potential health risks are evaluated and, as indicated, restricted.

9(f) *Pertinent geographical differentials.*—The quarantine program is focused at "ports of entry" into the United States. While originally quarantine was centered on major coastal cities, the growth of air travel has dramatically altered conditions and needs. In 1965, quarantine procedures were provided at over 400 locations across the United States.