

**§ 461. Offenses and punishment****(a) Violations; liability of agents, employees, and employers**

Any person who violates the provisions of section 458, 459, 460, 463, or 466 of this title shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; but if such violation involves intent to defraud, or any distribution or attempted distribution of an article that is adulterated (except as defined in section 453(g)(8) of this title), such person shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than three years, or both. When construing or enforcing the provisions of said sections the act, omission, or failure of any person acting for or employed by any individual, partnership, corporation, or association within the scope of his employment or office shall in every case be deemed the act, omission, or failure of such individual, partnership, corporation, or association, as well as of such person.

**(b) Liability of carrier**

No carrier shall be subject to the penalties of this chapter, other than the penalties for violation of section 460 of this title, by reason of his receipt, carriage, holding, or delivery, in the usual course of business, as a carrier, of poultry or poultry products, owned by another person unless the carrier has knowledge, or is in possession of facts which would cause a reasonable person to believe that such poultry or poultry products were not inspected or marked in accordance with the provisions of this chapter or were otherwise not eligible for transportation under this chapter or unless the carrier refuses to furnish on request of a representative of the Secretary the name and address of the person from whom he received such poultry or poultry products, and copies of all documents, if any there be, pertaining to the delivery of the poultry or poultry products to such carrier.

**(c) Assaulting, resisting, or impeding certain persons; murder; punishments**

Any person who forcibly assaults, resists, opposes, impedes, intimidates, or interferes with any person while engaged in or on account of the performance of his official duties under this chapter shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than three years, or both. Whoever, in the commission of any such acts, uses a deadly or dangerous weapon, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both. Whoever kills any person while engaged in or on account of the performance of his official duties under this chapter shall be punished as provided under sections 1111 and 1114 of title 18.

(Pub. L. 85-172, §12, Aug. 28, 1957, 71 Stat. 446; Pub. L. 90-492, §12, Aug. 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 802.)

## AMENDMENTS

1968—Par. (a). Pub. L. 90-492, §12(a), inserted reference to violations of section 463 of this title, and substituted provisions that violators of the enumerated sections shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, but that in cases involving intent to defraud, or any distribution or attempt to distribute adulterated articles, except as defined in section 453(g) of this title, the violators shall

be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than three years, or both, for provisions that violators shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to imprisonment for not more than six months or a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both, with increased fines and imprisonment for any subsequent violations.

Par. (b). Pub. L. 90-492, §12(b), substituted “of poultry” for “of slaughtered poultry”, “such poultry” for “such slaughtered poultry”, and “otherwise not eligible” for “not otherwise eligible”, and inserted provision that no carrier shall be subject to punishment unless the carrier refuses to furnish the name and address of the person from whom he received such poultry or poultry products, and copies of any documents pertaining to the delivery of the poultry or poultry products to such carrier.

Par. (c). Pub. L. 90-492, §12(c), added par. (c).

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1968 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 90-492 effective Aug. 18, 1968, see section 20 of Pub. L. 90-492, set out as a note under section 451 of this title.

**§ 462. Reporting of violations; notice; opportunity to present views**

Before any violation of this chapter is reported by the Secretary to any United States attorney for institution of a criminal proceeding, the person against whom such proceeding is contemplated shall be given reasonable notice of the alleged violation and opportunity to present his views orally or in writing with regard to such contemplated proceeding. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as requiring the Secretary to report for criminal prosecution violations of this chapter whenever he believes that the public interest will be adequately served and compliance with the chapter obtained by a suitable written notice or warning.

(Pub. L. 85-172, §13, Aug. 28, 1957, 71 Stat. 447.)

**§ 463. Rules and regulations****(a) Storage and handling of poultry products; violation of regulations**

The Secretary may by regulations prescribe conditions under which poultry products capable of use as human food, shall be stored or otherwise handled by any person engaged in the business of buying, selling, freezing, storing, or transporting, in or for commerce, or importing, such articles, whenever the Secretary deems such action necessary to assure that such articles will not be adulterated or misbranded when delivered to the consumer. Violation of any such regulation is prohibited.

**(b) Other necessary rules and regulations**

The Secretary shall promulgate such other rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

**(c) Oral presentation of views**

In applying the provisions of section 553(c) of title 5 to proposed rule making under this chapter, an opportunity for the oral presentation of views shall be accorded all interested persons.

(Pub. L. 85-172, §14, Aug. 28, 1957, 71 Stat. 447; Pub. L. 90-492, §13, Aug. 18, 1968, 82 Stat. 803.)

## AMENDMENTS

1968—Pub. L. 90-492 designated existing provisions as par. (b), added pars. (a) and (c), and in par. (b), as so