

1998, 112 Stat. 1092. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to this section were contained in section 711 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-220.

A prior section 709, Pub. L. 93-112, §10, Sept. 26, 1973, 87 Stat. 363; Pub. L. 95-602, title I, §122(a)(9), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2985; Pub. L. 100-630, title II, §201(d), Nov. 7, 1988, 102 Stat. 3304; Pub. L. 102-569, title I, §104, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4361, related to nonduplication prohibition, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-220, title IV, §403, Aug. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1093. See section 707 of this title.

A prior section 12 of Pub. L. 93-112 was renumbered section 14 and is classified to section 711 of this title.

Another prior section 12 of Pub. L. 93-112 was classified to section 711 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-220.

### § 710. Reports

#### (a) Annual reports required

Not later than one hundred and eighty days after the close of each fiscal year, the Commissioner shall prepare and submit to the President and to the Congress a full and complete report on the activities carried out under this chapter, including the activities and staffing of the information clearinghouse under section 712 of this title.

#### (b) Collection of information

The Commissioner shall collect information to determine whether the purposes of this chapter are being met and to assess the performance of programs carried out under this chapter. The Commissioner shall take whatever action is necessary to assure that the identity of each individual for which information is supplied under this section is kept confidential, except as otherwise required by law (including regulation).

#### (c) Information to be included in reports

In preparing the report, the Commissioner shall annually collect and include in the report information based on the information submitted by States in accordance with section 721(a)(10) of this title, including information on administrative costs as required by section 721(a)(10)(D) of this title. The Commissioner shall, to the maximum extent appropriate, include in the report all information that is required to be submitted in the reports described in section 2871(d) of this title and that pertains to the employment of individuals with disabilities.

(Pub. L. 93-112, §13, formerly §11, as added Pub. L. 105-220, title IV, §403, Aug. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1111; renumbered §13, Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(f) [title VIII, §402(a)(1)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-337, 2681-412.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to this section were contained in section 712 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-220.

A prior section 710, Pub. L. 93-112, §11, as added Pub. L. 95-602, title I, §121, Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2984, related to application of other laws, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-220, title IV, §403, Aug. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1093. See section 708 of this title.

A prior section 13 of Pub. L. 93-112 was renumbered section 15 and is classified to section 712 of this title.

Another prior section 13 of Pub. L. 93-112 was classified to section 712 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-220.

#### EXCHANGE OF DATA

Pub. L. 102-569, title I, §137, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4397, provided that: "The Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall enter into a memorandum of understanding for the purpose of exchanging data of mutual importance, regarding clients of State vocational rehabilitation agencies, that are contained in databases maintained by the Rehabilitation Services Administration, as required under section 13 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ([former] 29 U.S.C. 712), and the Social Security Administration, from its Summary Earnings and Records and Master Beneficiary Records. For purposes of the exchange, the Social Security data shall not be considered tax information and, as appropriate, the confidentiality of all client information shall be maintained by both agencies."

### § 711. Evaluation

#### (a) Statement of purpose; standards; persons eligible to conduct evaluations

For the purpose of improving program management and effectiveness, the Secretary, in consultation with the Commissioner, shall evaluate all the programs authorized by this chapter, their general effectiveness in relation to their cost, their impact on related programs, and their structure and mechanisms for delivery of services, using appropriate methodology and evaluative research designs. The Secretary shall establish and use standards for the evaluations required by this subsection. Such an evaluation shall be conducted by a person not immediately involved in the administration of the program evaluated.

#### (b) Opinions of program and project participants

In carrying out evaluations under this section, the Secretary shall obtain the opinions of program and project participants about the strengths and weaknesses of the programs and projects.

#### (c) Data as property of United States

The Secretary shall take the necessary action to assure that all studies, evaluations, proposals, and data produced or developed with Federal funds under this chapter shall become the property of the United States.

#### (d) Information from other departments and agencies

Such information as the Secretary may determine to be necessary for purposes of the evaluations conducted under this section shall be made available upon request of the Secretary, by the departments and agencies of the executive branch.

#### (e) Longitudinal study

(1) To assess the linkages between vocational rehabilitation services and economic and non-economic outcomes, the Secretary shall continue to conduct a longitudinal study of a national sample of applicants for the services.

(2) The study shall address factors related to attrition and completion of the program through which the services are provided and factors within and outside the program affecting results. Appropriate comparisons shall be used to contrast the experiences of similar persons who do not obtain the services.

(3) The study shall be planned to cover the period beginning on the application of individuals