

§ 6503. Breach or violation of required contract terms

(a) APPLICABLE BREACH OR VIOLATION.—This section applies in case of breach or violation of a representation or stipulation included in a contract under section 6502 of this title.

(b) LIQUIDATED DAMAGES.—In addition to damages for any other breach of the contract, the party responsible for a breach or violation described in subsection (a) is liable to the Federal Government for the following liquidated damages:

(1) An amount equal to the sum of \$10 per day for each individual under 16 years of age and each incarcerated individual knowingly employed in the performance of the contract.

(2) An amount equal to the sum of each underpayment of wages due an employee engaged in the performance of the contract, including any underpayments arising from deductions, rebates, or refunds.

(c) CANCELLATION AND ALTERNATIVE COMPLETION.—In addition to the Federal Government being entitled to damages described in subsection (b), the agency of the United States that made the contract may cancel the contract and make open-market purchases or make other contracts for the completion of the original contract, charging any additional cost to the original contractor.

(d) RECOVERY OF AMOUNTS DUE.—An amount due the Federal Government because of a breach or violation described in subsection (a) may be withheld from any amounts owed the contractor under any contract under section 6502 of this title or may be recovered in a suit brought by the Attorney General.

(e) EMPLOYEE REIMBURSEMENT FOR UNDERPAYMENT OF WAGES.—An amount withheld or recovered under subsection (d) that is based on an underpayment of wages as described in subsection (b)(2) shall be held in a special deposit account. On order of the Secretary, the amount shall be paid directly to the underpaid employee on whose account the amount was withheld or recovered. However, an employee's claim for payment under this subsection may be entertained only if made within one year from the date of actual notice to the contractor of the withholding or recovery.

(Pub. L. 111-350, §3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3808.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 6503, 41:36, June 30, 1936, ch. 881, §2, 49 Stat. 2037.

In subsection (b)(1), the words "individual under 16 years of age" are substituted for "male person under sixteen years of age or each female person under eighteen years of age" to reflect the interpretation of this provision subsequent to enactment of civil rights laws such as section 703 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42:2000e-2), as carried out by the Department of Labor through 41 C.F.R. Part 50-201.104. The words "incarcerated individual" are substituted for "convict laborer" because of the exception to convict labor that satisfies the conditions of 18:1761(c). Section 1761 does not apply to non-incarcerated convicts.

Subsection (b)(2) is substituted for "a sum equal to the amount of any deductions, rebates, refunds, or

underpayment of wages due to any employee engaged in the performance of such contract" for consistency in the chapter.

In subsection (c), the words "made the contract" and "make other contracts" are substituted for "entering into such contract" and "enter into other contracts", respectively, for consistency in the revised title.

In subsection (d), the words "suit brought by the Attorney General" are substituted for "suits brought in the name of the United States of America by the Attorney General thereof" to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 6504. Three-year prohibition on new contracts in case of breach or violation

(a) DISTRIBUTION OF LIST.—The Comptroller General shall distribute to each agency of the United States a list containing the names of persons found by the Secretary to have breached or violated a representation or stipulation included in a contract under section 6502 of this title.

(b) THREE-YEAR PROHIBITION.—Unless the Secretary recommends otherwise, a contract described in section 6502 of this title may not be awarded to a person named on the list under subsection (a), or to a firm, corporation, partnership, or association in which the person has a controlling interest, until 3 years have elapsed from the date of the determination by the Secretary that a breach or violation occurred.

(Pub. L. 111-350, §3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3808.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 6504, 41:37, June 30, 1936, ch. 881, §3, 49 Stat. 2037.

In this section, the words "or firms" are omitted because of the definition of "person" in 41:41, restated in section 6501 of the revised title.

In subsection (a), the words "or violated" are added for consistency in the chapter.

In subsection (b), the words "contract described in section 6502 of this title" are substituted for "contracts" to clarify the scope of the prohibition. The words "the date of the determination by the Secretary that a breach or violation occurred" are substituted for "the date the Secretary of Labor determines such breach to have occurred" to clarify that the three-year period begins with the date of the Secretary's determination and not with the date of the breach or violation. The words "or violation" are added for consistency in the chapter.

§ 6505. Exclusions

(a) ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE OPEN MARKET.—This chapter does not apply to the purchase of materials, supplies, articles, or equipment that may usually be bought in the open market.

(b) PERISHABLES AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—This chapter does not apply to any of the following:

(1) Perishables, including dairy, livestock and nursery products.

(2) Agricultural or farm products processed for first sale by the original producers.

(3) Contracts made by the Secretary of Agriculture for the purchase of agricultural commodities or products of agricultural commodities.

(c) CARRIAGE OF FREIGHT OR PERSONNEL.—This chapter may not be construed to apply to—