

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Cotton Research and Promotion Amendments Act of 1990, referred to in subsec. (b), probably means the Cotton Research and Promotion Act Amendments of 1990, subtitle G [ §§1990-1998 ] of title XIX of Pub. L. 101-624, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3909, which amended sections 2101, 2106 to 2110, and 2116 of this title and enacted provisions set out as notes under section 2101 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1990 Amendment note set out under section 2101 of this title and Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

1991—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-237 inserted “of this chapter” after “any other section” and struck out “of this chapter,” before “any cotton producer”.

1990—Pub. L. 101-624 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), substituted “Notwithstanding any other section and except as provided in subsection (b) of this section,” for “Notwithstanding any other provision”, and added subsec. (b).

**§ 2111. Administrative review of orders; petition; hearing; judicial review**

(a) Any person subject to any order may file a written petition with the Secretary, stating that any such order or any provision of such order or any obligation imposed in connection therewith is not in accordance with law and praying for a modification thereof or to be exempted therefrom. He shall thereupon be given an opportunity for a hearing upon such petition, in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary. After such hearing, the Secretary shall make a ruling upon the prayer of such petition which shall be final, if in accordance with law.

(b) The district courts of the United States in any district in which such person is an inhabitant, or has his principal place of business, are hereby vested with jurisdiction to review such ruling, provided a complaint for that purpose is filed within twenty days from the date of the entry of such ruling. Service of process in such proceedings may be had upon the Secretary by delivering to him a copy of the complaint. If the court determines that such ruling is not in accordance with law, it shall remand such proceedings to the Secretary with directions either (1) to make such ruling as the court shall determine to be in accordance with law, or (2) to take such further proceedings as, in its opinion, the law requires. The pendency of proceedings instituted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall not impede, hinder, or delay the United States or the Secretary from obtaining relief pursuant to section 2112(a) of this title.

(Pub. L. 89-502, § 12, July 13, 1966, 80 Stat. 284.)

**§ 2112. Enforcement of orders; penalty for willful violation**

(a) The several district courts of the United States are vested with jurisdiction specifically to enforce, and to prevent and restrain any person from violating any order or regulation made or issued pursuant to this chapter.

(b) Any handler who willfully violates any provision of any order issued by the Secretary under this chapter, or who willfully fails or refuses to collect or remit any assessment or fee duly required of him thereunder, shall be liable to a penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each such offense which shall accrue to the United

States and may be recovered in a civil suit brought by the United States.

(Pub. L. 89-502, § 13, July 13, 1966, 80 Stat. 284.)

**§ 2113. Certification of cotton producer organizations**

The eligibility of each cotton producer organization to represent cotton producers of a cotton producing State to request the issuance of an order under section 2103 of this title, and to participate in the making of nominations under section 2106(b) of this title shall be certified by the Secretary and shall be based in addition to other available information upon a factual report submitted by the organization which shall contain information deemed relevant and specified by the Secretary for the making of such determination, including the following:

(a) Geographic territory within the State covered by the organization's active membership;

(b) Nature and size of the organization's active membership in the State, proportion of total of such active membership accounted for by farmers, a map showing the cotton-producing counties in such State in which the organization has members, the volume of cotton produced in each such county, the number of cotton producers in each such county, and the size of the organization's active cotton producer membership in each such county;

(c) The extent to which the cotton producer membership of such organization is represented in setting the organization's policies;

(d) Evidence of stability and permanency of the organization;

(e) Sources from which the organization's operating funds are derived;

(f) Functions of the organization; and

(g) The organization's ability and willingness to further the aims and objectives of this chapter:

*Provided, however,* That the primary consideration in determining the eligibility of an organization shall be whether its cotton farmer membership consists of a sufficiently large number of the cotton producers who produce a relatively significant volume of cotton to reasonably warrant its participation in the nomination of members for the Cotton Board. The Secretary shall certify any cotton producer organization which he finds to be eligible under this section, and his determination as to eligibility shall be final.

(Pub. L. 89-502, § 14, July 13, 1966, 80 Stat. 284.)

**§ 2114. Rules and regulations**

The Secretary is authorized to make such regulations with the force and effect of law, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter and the powers vested in him by this chapter.

(Pub. L. 89-502, § 15, July 13, 1966, 80 Stat. 285.)

**§ 2115. Investigations by Secretary; subpoenas; oaths and affirmations; judicial aid**

The Secretary may make such investigations as he deems necessary for the effective carrying