thenticity. Upon request of a distributor who has purchased a fastener, or a person who has purchased a fastener for use in the production of a commercial product, the manufacturer or importer of the fastener shall make available information in the record of conformance to the requester.

(Pub. L. 101-592, §7, formerly §10, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2951; Pub. L. 104-113, §11(h), Mar. 7, 1996, 110 Stat. 782; renumbered §7 and amended Pub. L. 106-34, §7, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123.)

### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7 of Pub. L. 101-592 was classified to section 5406 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 106-34.

#### Amendments

1999—Pub. L. 106-34 substituted present provisions for former provisions which consisted of subsecs. (a) and (b) relating to retention and availability of records concerning inspections, testing, and certifications of fasteners under section 5404 of this title by laboratories, manufacturers, importers, private label distributors and persons who make significant alterations.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-113, §11(h)(1), substituted "5 years" for "10 years".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-113, §11(h), substituted "5 years" for "10 years" and "the subsequent purchaser" for "any subsequent purchaser".

## § 5410. Relationship to State laws

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to preempt any rights or causes of action that any buyer may have with respect to any seller of fasteners under the law of any State, except to the extent that the provisions of this chapter are in conflict with such State law.

(Pub. L. 101-592, §8, formerly §11, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2952; renumbered §8, Pub. L. 106-34, §8, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8 of Pub. L. 101-592 was renumbered section 5 and is classified to section 5407 of this title.

#### §5411. Construction

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit or otherwise affect the authority of any consensus standards organization to establish, modify, or withdraw any standards and specifications under any other law or authority.

(Pub. L. 101-592, §9, formerly §12, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2952; renumbered §9 and amended Pub. L. 106-34, §9, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123.)

### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 9 of Pub. L.  $101{-}592$  was renumbered section 6 and is classified to section 5408 of this title.

### AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-34 struck out "in effect on November 16, 1990" after "law or authority".

## §5411a. Certification and accreditation

#### (a) Certification

A person publishing a document setting forth guidance or requirements for the certification of manufacturing systems as fastener quality assurance systems by an accredited third party may petition the Director to approve such document for use as described in section 5402(7)(B)(iii)(I) of this title. The Director shall act upon a petition within 180 days after its filing, and shall approve such petition if the document provides equal or greater rigor and reliability as compared to ISO/IEC Guide 62.

## (b) Accreditation

A person publishing a document setting forth guidance or requirements for the approval of accreditation bodies to accredit third parties described in subsection (a) of this section may petition the Director to approve such document for use as described in section 5402(7)(B)(iii)(I) of this title. The Director shall act upon a petition within 180 days after its filing, and shall approve such petition if the document provides equal or greater rigor and reliability as compared to ISO/ IEC Guide 61.

## (c) Laboratory accreditation

A person publishing a document setting forth guidance or requirements for the accreditation of laboratories may petition the Director to approve such document for use as described in section 5402(1)(A) of this title. The Director shall act upon a petition within 180 days after its filing, and shall approve such petition if the document provides equal or greater rigor and reliability as compared to ISO/IEC Guide 25.

## (d) Approval of accreditation bodies

A person publishing a document setting forth guidance or requirements for the approval of accreditation bodies to accredit laboratories may petition the Director to approve such document for use as described in section 5402(1)(B) of this title. The Director shall act upon a petition within 180 days after its filing, and shall approve such petition if the document provides equal or greater rigor and reliability as compared to ISO/ IEC Guide 58. In addition to any other voluntary laboratory accreditation programs that may be established by private sector persons, the Director shall establish a National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program, for the accreditation of laboratories as described in section 5402(1)(B) of this title, that meets the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 58 (or another document approved by the Director under this subsection), including revisions from time-to-time.

#### (e) Affirmation

(1) An accreditation body accrediting third parties who certify manufacturing systems as fastener quality assurance systems as described in section 5402(7)(B)(iii)(I) of this title shall affirm to the Director that it meets the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 61 (or another document approved by the Director under subsection (b) of this section), including revisions from time-to-time.

(2) An accreditation body accrediting laboratories as described in section 5402(1)(B) of this title shall affirm to the Director that it meets the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 58 (or another document approved by the Director under subsection (d) of this section), including revisions from time-to-time.

(3) An affirmation required under paragraph (1) or (2) shall take the form of a self-declaration that the accreditation body meets the require-

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ments of the applicable Guide, signed by an authorized representative of the accreditation body, without requirement for accompanying documentation. Any such affirmation shall be considered to be a continuous affirmation that the accreditation body meets the requirements of the applicable Guide, unless and until the affirmation is withdrawn by the accreditation body.

(Pub. L. 101-592, §10, as added Pub. L. 106-34, §10, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 10 of Pub. L. 101–592 was renumbered section 7 and is classified to section 5409 of this title.

## §5411b. Applicability

The requirements of this chapter shall be applicable only to fasteners fabricated 180 days or more after June 8, 1999, except that if a manufacturer or distributor of fasteners fabricated before June 8, 1999, prepares a record of conformance for such fasteners, representations about such fasteners shall be subject to the requirements of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 101-592, §11, as added Pub. L. 106-34, §11, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 124.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 11 of Pub. L. 101-592 was renumbered section 8 and is classified to section 5410 of this title.

# §5412. Repealed. Pub. L. 106–34, §10, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123

Section, Pub. L. 101-592, §13, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2952; Pub. L. 104-113, §11(i), Mar. 7, 1996, 110 Stat. 782, required the Secretary to issue regulations necessary to implement chapter.

## §5413. Repealed. Pub. L. 104–113, §11(j), Mar. 7, 1996, 110 Stat. 782

Section, Pub. L. 101-592, §14, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2952, related to appointment of an advisory committee to be available for consultation with Secretary on matters related to fasteners.

## §5414. Repealed. Pub. L. 106–34, §10, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123

Section, Pub. L. 101-592, §15, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2952; Pub. L. 105-234, §1, Aug. 14, 1998, 112 Stat. 1536, related to applicability of this chapter.

## CHAPTER 81—HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

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- 5541. Definitions.
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#### § 5501. Findings

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Advances in computer science and technology are vital to the Nation's prosperity, national and economic security, industrial production, engineering, and scientific advancement.

(2) The United States currently leads the world in the development and use of high-performance computing for national security, industrial productivity, science, and engineering, but that lead is being challenged by foreign competitors.

(3) Further research and development, expanded educational programs, improved computer research networks, and more effective technology transfer from government to industry are necessary for the United States to reap fully the benefits of high-performance computing.

(4) A high-capacity, flexible, high-speed national research and education computer network is needed to provide researchers and educators with access to computational and information resources, act as a test bed for further research and development for high-capacity and high-speed computer networks, and provide researchers the necessary vehicle for continued network technology improvement through research.

(5) Several Federal agencies have ongoing high-performance computing programs, but improved long-term interagency coordination, cooperation, and planning would enhance the effectiveness of these programs.

(6) A 1991 report entitled "Grand Challenges: High-Performance Computing and Communications" by the Office of Science and Technology Policy, outlining a research and development strategy for high-performance computing, provides a framework for a multiagency high-performance computing program. Such a program would provide American researchers and educators with the computer and information resources they need, and demonstrate how advanced computers, high-capacity and high-speed networks, and electronic data bases can improve the national information infrastructure for use by all Americans.

(7) Additional research must be undertaken to lay the foundation for the development of new applications that can result in economic growth, improved health care, and improved educational opportunities.

(8) Research in new networking technologies holds the promise of easing the economic burdens of information access disproportionately borne by rural users of the Internet.