

**§ 587. Telecommuting and other alternative workplace arrangements**

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “telecommuting centers” means flexiplace work telecommuting centers.

(b) TELECOMMUTING CENTERS ESTABLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR OF GENERAL SERVICES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of General Services may acquire space for, establish, and equip telecommuting centers for use in accordance with this subsection.

(2) USE.—A telecommuting center may be used by employees of federal agencies, state and local governments, and the private sector. The Administrator shall give federal employees priority in using a telecommuting center. The Administrator may make a telecommuting center available for use by others to the extent it is not fully utilized by federal employees.

(3) USER FEES.—The Administrator shall charge a user fee for the use of a telecommuting center. The amount of the user fee shall approximate commercial charges for comparable space and services. However, the user fee may not be less than necessary to pay the cost of establishing and operating the telecommuting center, including the reasonable cost of renovation and replacement of furniture, fixtures, and equipment.

(4) DEPOSIT AND USE OF FEES.—The Administrator may—

(A) deposit user fees into the Federal Buildings Fund and use the fees to pay costs incurred in establishing and operating the telecommuting center; and

(B) accept and retain income received by the General Services Administration, from federal agencies and non-federal sources, to defray costs directly associated with the functions of telecommuting centers.

(c) DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE WORKPLACE ARRANGEMENTS BY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES AND OTHERS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “alternative workplace arrangements” includes telecommuting, hoteling, virtual offices, and other distributive work arrangements.

(2) CONSIDERATION BY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.—In considering whether to acquire space, quarters, buildings, or other facilities for use by employees, the head of an executive agency shall consider whether needs can be met using alternative workplace arrangements.

(3) GUIDANCE FROM ADMINISTRATOR.—The Administrator may provide guidance, assistance, and oversight to any person regarding the establishment and operation of alternative workplace arrangements.

(d) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR FLEXIPLACE WORK TELECOMMUTING PROGRAMS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “flexiplace work telecommuting program” means a program under which employees of a department or agency set out in paragraph (2) are permitted to perform all or a portion of their duties at a telecommuting center established under this section or other federal law.

(2) MINIMUM FUNDING.—For each of the following departments and agencies, in each fis-

cal year at least \$50,000 of amounts made available for salaries and expenses is available only for carrying out a flexiplace work telecommuting program:

- (A) Department of Agriculture.
- (B) Department of Commerce.
- (C) Department of Defense.
- (D) Department of Education.
- (E) Department of Energy.
- (F) Department of Health and Human Services.

(G) Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(H) Department of the Interior.

(I) Department of Justice.

(J) Department of Labor.

(K) Department of State.

(L) Department of Transportation.

(M) Department of the Treasury.

(N) Department of Veterans Affairs.

(O) Environmental Protection Agency.

(P) General Services Administration.

(Q) Office of Personnel Management.

(R) Small Business Administration.

(S) Social Security Administration.

(T) United States Postal Service.

(Pub. L. 107-217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1113.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
587(a), (b)(1)–(4)(A).	40:490(l)(1)–(3).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §210(l), as added Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(f) [title IV, §407(a)], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-337.
587(b)(4)(B)	40:490h.	Pub. L. 104-52, title IV, §5, Nov. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 486.
587(c)(1) .....	40:490(l)(4) (words after 3d comma).	
587(c)(2) .....	40:490(l)(5).	
587(c)(3) .....	40:490(l)(4) (words before 3d comma).	
587(d) .....	40:490 note.	Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(h) [title VI, §630], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-522.

**§ 588. Movement and supply of office furniture**

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “controlled space” means a substantial and identifiable segment of space (such as a building, floor, or wing) in a location that the Administrator of General Services controls for purposes of assignment of space.

(b) APPLICATION.—This section applies if an agency (or unit of the agency), moves from one controlled space to another, whether in the same or a different location.

(c) MOVING EXISTING FURNITURE.—The furniture and furnishings used by an agency (or organizational unit of the agency) shall be moved only if the Administrator determines, after consultation with the head of the agency and with due regard for the program activities of the agency, that it would not be more economical and efficient to make suitable replacements available in the new controlled space.

(d) PROVIDING REPLACEMENT FURNITURE.—In the absence of a determination under subsection (c), suitable furniture and furnishings for the new controlled space shall be provided from stocks under the control of the moving agency or from stocks available to the Administrator,

whichever the Administrator determines to be more economical and efficient. However, the same or similar items may not be provided from both sources.

(e) CONTROL OF REPLACEMENT FURNITURE.—If furniture and furnishings for a new controlled space are provided from stocks available to the Administrator, the items being provided remain in the control of the Administrator.

(f) CONTROL OF FURNITURE NOT MOVED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If furniture and furnishings for a new controlled space are provided from stocks available to the Administrator, the furniture and furnishings that were previously used by the moving agency (or unit of the agency) pass to the control of the Administrator.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Furniture and furnishings passing to the control of the Administrator under this section pass without reimbursement.

(B) EXCEPTION FOR TRUST FUND.—If furniture and furnishings that were purchased from a trust fund pass to the control of the Administrator under this section, the Administrator shall reimburse the trust fund for the fair market value of the furniture and furnishings.

(3) REVOLVING OR WORKING CAPITAL FUND.—If furniture and furnishings are carried as assets of a revolving or working capital fund at the time they pass to the control of the Administrator under this section, the net book value of the furniture and furnishings shall be written off and the capital of the fund is diminished by the amount of the write-off.

(Pub. L. 107–217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1115.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
588 .....	40:490(g).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §210(g), as added Sept. 1, 1954, ch. 1211, §3, 68 Stat. 1129.

In subsection (f)(2), the reimbursement requirement in 40:490(g) (last sentence) is set out as an exception to a general “without reimbursement” rule in 40:490(g) (3d sentence) to harmonize an inconsistency in the source law.

**§ 589. Installation, repair, and replacement of sidewalks**

(a) IN GENERAL.—An executive agency may install, repair, and replace sidewalks around buildings, installations, property, or grounds that are—

- (1) under the agency’s control;
- (2) owned by the Federal Government; and
- (3) located in a State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or a territory or possession of the United States.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT.—Subsection (a) may be carried out by—

- (1) reimbursement to a State or political subdivision of a State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or a territory or possession of the United States; or
- (2) a means other than reimbursement.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with regulations the Administrator of General Services prescribes with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(d) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts appropriated to an executive agency for installation, repair, and maintenance, generally, are available to carry out this section.

(e) LIABILITY.—This section does not increase or enlarge the tort liability of the Government for injuries to individuals or damages to property.

(Pub. L. 107–217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1116.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
589 .....	40:490(i).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §210(i), as added Pub. L. 89–344, Nov. 8, 1965, 79 Stat. 1304.

In subsections (a) and (b), the words “territory or” are added for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

In subsection (c), the words “Director of the Office of Management and Budget” are substituted for “Director of the Bureau of the Budget” in section 210(i) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 because the office of Director of the Bureau of the Budget was redesignated the Director of the Office of Management and Budget by section 102(b) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1970 (eff. July 1, 1970, 84 Stat. 2085). Section 102 of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1970, was repealed by section 5(b) of the Act of September 13, 1982 (Public Law 97–258, 96 Stat. 1085), the first section of which enacted Title 31, United States Code, but the successor provision, 31:502, continued the designation as Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

In subsection (e), the words “beyond such liability presently existing by virtue of any other law” are omitted as unnecessary.

**§ 590. Child care**

(a) GUIDANCE, ASSISTANCE, AND OVERSIGHT.—Through the General Services Administration’s licensing agreements, the Administrator of General Services shall provide guidance, assistance, and oversight to federal agencies for the development of child care centers to provide economical and effective child care for federal workers.

(b) ALLOTMENT OF SPACE IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the following definitions apply:

(A) CHILD CARE PROVIDER.—The term “child care provider” means an individual or entity that provides or proposes to provide child care services for federal employees.

(B) ALLOTMENT OFFICER.—The term “allotment officer” means an officer or agency of the Federal Government charged with the allotment of space in federal buildings.

(2) ALLOTMENT.—A child care provider may be allotted space in a federal building by an allotment officer if—

- (A) the child care provider applies to the allotment officer in the community or district in which child care services are to be provided;
- (B) the space is available; and