

CHAPTER 26—AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT

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SUBCHAPTER I—DECLARATION OF CONDITIONS AND POLICY

§ 601. Declaration of conditions

It is declared that the disruption of the orderly exchange of commodities in interstate commerce impairs the purchasing power of farmers and destroys the value of agricultural assets which support the national credit structure and that these conditions affect transactions in agricultural commodities with a national public interest, and burden and obstruct the normal channels of interstate commerce.

(May 12, 1933, ch. 25, title I, §1, 48 Stat. 31; June 3, 1937, ch. 296, §§1, 2(a), 50 Stat. 246.)

CONSTITUTIONALITY

For information regarding constitutionality of act May 12, 1933, and act Aug. 24, 1935, cited throughout this chapter, see Congressional Research Service, The Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis and Interpretation, Appendix 1, Acts of Congress Held Unconstitutional in Whole or in Part by the Supreme Court of the United States.

SHORT TITLE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-215, §1, Apr. 11, 2006, 120 Stat. 328, provided that: "This Act [amending section 608c of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 608c of this title] may be cited as the 'Milk Regulatory Equity Act of 2005'."

SHORT TITLE

Act June 16, 1933, ch. 90, title I, §8(a), 48 Stat. 199, provided in part that title I of act May 12, 1933, which is classified to this chapter, may for all purposes be referred to as the "Agricultural Adjustment Act."

VALIDITY OF CERTAIN SECTIONS AFFIRMED

Act June 3, 1937, ch. 296, §§1, 2, 50 Stat. 246, provided as follows: "The following provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, not having been intended for the control of the production of agricultural commodities, and having been intended to be effective irrespective of the validity of any other provision of that Act are expressly affirmed and validated, and are reenacted without change except as provided in section 2:

- "(a) Section 1 (relating to the declaration of emergency [this section]);
- "(b) Section 2 (relating to declaration of policy [section 602 of this title]);
- "(c) Section 8a(5), (6), (7), (8), and (9) (relating to violations and enforcement [section 608a(5), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of this title]);
- "(d) Section 8b (relating to marketing agreements [section 608b of this title]);
- "(e) Section 8c (relating to orders [section 608c of this title]);
- "(f) Section 8d (relating to books and records [section 608d of this title]);
- "(g) Section 8e (relating to determination of base period [former section 608e of this title]);

“(h) Section 10(a), (b)(2), (c), (f), (g), (h), and (i) (miscellaneous provisions [section 610(a), (b)(2), (c), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of this title]);

“(i) Section 12(a) and (c) (relating to appropriation and expenses [section 612(a) and (c) of this title]);

“(j) Section 14 (relating to separability [section 614 of this title]);

“(k) Section 22 (relating to imports [section 624 of this title]).

“SEC. 2. The following provisions, reenacted in section I of this act, are amended as follows: * * * [sections 601, 602(1), 608a(6), 608c(5)(B)(d), (6)(B), (6)(B)(18), (19), 610(c), (f), 612(a) of this title.]”

Section 2 of act June 3, 1937, also added subsec. (j) to section 610.

Section 2 of act June 3, 1937, was amended by act Aug. 5, 1937, ch. 567, 50 Stat. 563, which amending act provided for amendments to subsecs. (2) and (6) of section 608c of this title.

§ 602. Declaration of policy; establishment of price basing period; marketing standards; orderly supply flow; circumstances for continued regulation

It is declared to be the policy of Congress—

(1) Through the exercise of the powers conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to establish and maintain such orderly marketing conditions for agricultural commodities in interstate commerce as will establish, as the prices to farmers, parity prices as defined by section 1301(a)(1) of this title.

(2) To protect the interest of the consumer by (a) approaching the level of prices which it is declared to be the policy of Congress to establish in subsection (1) of this section by gradual correction of the current level at as rapid a rate as the Secretary of Agriculture deems to be in the public interest and feasible in view of the current consumptive demand in domestic and foreign markets, and (b) authorizing no action under this chapter which has for its purpose the maintenance of prices to farmers above the level which it is declared to be the policy of Congress to establish in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Through the exercise of the powers conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to establish and maintain such production research, marketing research, and development projects provided in section 608c(6)(I) of this title, such container and pack requirements provided in section 608c(6)(H) of this title¹ such minimum standards of quality and maturity and such grading and inspection requirements for agricultural commodities enumerated in section 608c (2) of this title, other than milk and its products, in interstate commerce as will effectuate such orderly marketing of such agricultural commodities as will be in the public interest.

(4) Through the exercise of the powers conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to establish and maintain such orderly marketing conditions for any agricultural commodity enumerated in section 608c(2) of this title as will provide, in the interests of producers and consumers, an orderly flow of the supply thereof to market throughout its normal marketing season to avoid unreasonable fluctuations in supplies and prices.

(5) Through the exercise of the power conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to continue for the remainder of any marketing season or marketing year, such regulation pursuant to any order as will tend to avoid a disruption of the orderly marketing of any commodity and be in the public interest, if the regulation of such commodity under such order has been initiated during such marketing season or marketing year on the basis of its need to effectuate the policy of this chapter.

(May 12, 1933, ch. 25, title I, § 2, 48 Stat. 32; Aug. 24, 1935, ch. 641, §§ 1, 62, 49 Stat. 750, 782; June 3, 1937, ch. 296, §§ 1, 2(b), 50 Stat. 246, 247; Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 425, § 1, 61 Stat. 707; July 3, 1948, ch. 827, title III, § 302(a), 62 Stat. 1257; Aug. 28, 1954, ch. 1041, title IV, § 401(a), 68 Stat. 906; Pub. L. 87-128, title I, § 141(1), Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 303; Pub. L. 89-330, § 1(a), Nov. 8, 1965, 79 Stat. 1270; Pub. L. 91-292, § 1(1), June 25, 1970, 84 Stat. 333.)

AMENDMENTS

1970—Subsec. (3). Pub. L. 91-292 inserted authority to establish and maintain the production research, marketing research, and development projects provided in section 608c(6)(I) of this title.

1965—Subsec. (3). Pub. L. 89-330 inserted “such container and pack requirements provided in section 608c(6)(H) of this title”.

1961—Subsec. (5). Pub. L. 87-128 added subsec. (5).

1954—Subsec. (4). Act Aug. 28, 1954, added subsec. (4).

1948—Subsec. (1). Act July 3, 1948, made definition of “parity” conform to definition stated in section 1301(a)(1) of this title.

1947—Subsec. (3). Act Aug. 1, 1947, added subsec. (3).

1937—Act June 3, 1937, inserted “orderly marketing conditions for agricultural commodities in interstate commerce as will establish” before “as the prices to farmers”.

1935—Subsec. (1). Act Aug. 24, 1935, ch. 641, § 1, amended first sentence and act Aug. 24, 1935, ch. 641, § 62, amended second and third sentences.

Subsec. (2). Act Aug. 24, 1935, amended subsec. (2).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1948 AMENDMENT

Amendment by act July 3, 1948, effective Jan. 1, 1950, see section 303 of act July 3, 1948, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

VALIDITY OF SECTION AFFIRMED

Section 1 of act June 3, 1937, affirmed and validated, and reenacted without change the provisions of this section except for the amendment to subsec. (1) by section 2 of said act. See note set out under section 601 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER II—COTTON OPTION
CONTRACTS

§ 603. Government owned cotton; transfer to Secretary of Agriculture; powers of Secretary

The Farm Credit Administration and all departments and other agencies of the Government, not including the Federal intermediate credit banks are directed—

(a) To sell to the Secretary of Agriculture at such price as may be agreed upon, not in excess of the market price, all cotton now owned by them.

(b) To take such action and to make such settlements as are necessary in order to acquire full legal title to all cotton on which money has been loaned or advanced by any department or

¹ So in original. Probably should be followed by a comma.