

(5) Hazardous chemical

The term “hazardous chemical” has the meaning given such term by section 11021(e) of this title.

(6) Material safety data sheet

The term “material safety data sheet” means the sheet required to be developed under section 1910.1200(g) of title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as that section may be amended from time to time.

(7) Person

The term “person” means any individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, corporation (including a government corporation), partnership, association, State, municipality, commission, political subdivision of a State, or interstate body.

(8) Release

The term “release” means any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment (including the abandonment or discarding of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles) of any hazardous chemical, extremely hazardous substance, or toxic chemical.

(9) State

The term “State” means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other territory or possession over which the United States has jurisdiction.

(10) Toxic chemical

The term “toxic chemical” means a substance on the list described in section 11023(c) of this title.

(Pub. L. 99-499, title III, §329, Oct. 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 1757.)

§ 11050. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years beginning after September 30, 1986, such sums as may be necessary to carry out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 99-499, title III, §330, Oct. 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 1758.)

CHAPTER 117—ENCOURAGING GOOD FAITH PROFESSIONAL REVIEW ACTIVITIES

Sec.
11101. Findings.

SUBCHAPTER I—PROMOTION OF PROFESSIONAL REVIEW ACTIVITIES

11111. Professional review.
11112. Standards for professional review actions.
11113. Payment of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in defense of suit.
11114. Guidelines of Secretary.
11115. Construction.

SUBCHAPTER II—REPORTING OF INFORMATION

11131. Requiring reports on medical malpractice payments.

Sec.
11132. Reporting of sanctions taken by Boards of Medical Examiners.
11133. Reporting of certain professional review actions taken by health care entities.
11134. Form of reporting.
11135. Duty of hospitals to obtain information.
11136. Disclosure and correction of information.
11137. Miscellaneous provisions.

SUBCHAPTER III—DEFINITIONS AND REPORTS

11151. Definitions.
11152. Reports and memoranda of understanding.

§ 11101. Findings

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The increasing occurrence of medical malpractice and the need to improve the quality of medical care have become nationwide problems that warrant greater efforts than those that can be undertaken by any individual State.

(2) There is a national need to restrict the ability of incompetent physicians to move from State to State without disclosure or discovery of the physician's previous damaging or incompetent performance.

(3) This nationwide problem can be remedied through effective professional peer review.

(4) The threat of private money damage liability under Federal laws, including treble damage liability under Federal antitrust law, unreasonably discourages physicians from participating in effective professional peer review.

(5) There is an overriding national need to provide incentive and protection for physicians engaging in effective professional peer review.

(Pub. L. 99-660, title IV, §402, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3784.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 99-660, title IV, §401, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3784, provided that: “This title [enacting this chapter and provisions set out as a note under section 11111 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986.’”

SUBCHAPTER I—PROMOTION OF PROFESSIONAL REVIEW ACTIVITIES**§ 11111. Professional review****(a) In general****(1) Limitation on damages for professional review actions**

If a professional review action (as defined in section 11151(9) of this title) of a professional review body meets all the standards specified in section 11112(a) of this title, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section—

- (A) the professional review body,
(B) any person acting as a member or staff to the body,
(C) any person under a contract or other formal agreement with the body, and
(D) any person who participates with or assists the body with respect to the action,

shall not be liable in damages under any law of the United States or of any State (or political subdivision thereof) with respect to the ac-