(A) not be less than the minimum rate payable for a position at level GS-15 of the General Schedule; and

(B) not be more than the rate payable for a position at level I of the Executive Schedule, unless the rate is approved by the President under section 5377(d)(2) of title 5.

### (e) Retirement contributions

# (1) In general

On the request of a member of the Service who was an employee of an institution of higher education (as defined in section 1001 of title 20) immediately prior to appointment as a member of the Service and who retains the right to continue to make contributions to the retirement system of the institution, the Secretary may contribute an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the basic pay of the member to the retirement system of the institution on behalf of the member.

# (2) Federal retirement system

#### (A) In general

Subject to subparagraph (B), a member for whom a contribution is made under paragraph (1) shall not, as a result of serving as a member of the Service, be covered by, or earn service credit under, chapter 83 or 84 of title 5.

# (B) Annual leave

Service of a member of the Service described in subparagraph (A) shall be creditable for determining years of service under section 6303(a) of title 5.

#### (f) Involuntary separation

#### (1) In general

Subject to paragraph (2) and notwithstanding the provisions of title 5 governing appointment in the competitive service, in the case of an individual who is separated from the Service involuntarily and without cause—

(A) the Secretary may appoint the individual to a position in the competitive civil service at level GS-15 of the General Schedule; and

(B) the appointment shall be a career appointment.

# (2) Excepted civil service

In the case of an individual described in paragraph (1) who immediately prior to appointment as a member of the Service was not a career appointee in the civil service or the Senior Executive Service, the appointment of the individual under paragraph (1)—

(A) shall be to the excepted civil service; and

(B) may not exceed a period of 2 years.

(Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §620, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title VII, §7219, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 449.)

#### References in Text

The General Schedule, referred to in subsecs. (b)(2)(C), (4)(A)(iv), (B), (d)(2)(A), and (f)(1)(A), is set out under section 5332 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Level I of the Executive Schedule, referred to in subsec. (d)(2)(B), is set out in section 5312 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### PART C-STUDIES

## §§ 7671, 7672. Repealed. Pub. L. 113–79, title VII, § 7311, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 893

Section 7671, Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §631, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 608, related to evaluation and assessment of agricultural research, extension, and education programs.

Section 7672, Pub. L. 105–185, title VI, §632, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 608, related to study of federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education.

# **CHAPTER 104—PLANT PROTECTION**

#### Sec.

# 7701. Findings.

7702. Definitions.

#### SUBCHAPTER I—PLANT PROTECTION

- 7711. Regulation of movement of plant pests.
- 7712. Regulation of movement of plants, plant products, biological control organisms, noxious weeds, articles, and means of conveyance.
- 7712a. Reduction in backlog of agricultural export petitions.
- 7713. Notification and holding requirements upon arrival.
- 7714. General remedial measures for new plant pests and noxious weeds.
- 7715. Declaration of extraordinary emergency and resulting authorities.
- 7716. Recovery of compensation for unauthorized activities.
- 7717. Control of grasshoppers and Mormon crickets.
- 7718. Certification for exports.
- 7719. Methyl bromide.
- 7720. National plan for control and management of Sudden Oak Death.
  - Plant pest and disease management and disaster prevention.

#### SUBCHAPTER II—INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

- 7731. Inspections, seizures, and warrants.
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#### SUBCHAPTER III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

7751. Cooperation.

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- 7752. Buildings, land, people, claims, and agreements.
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- 7754. Regulations and orders.
- 7755. Protection for mail handlers.
- 7756. Preemption.
- 7757. Severability.
- 7758. Repeal of superseded laws.
- 7759. Fees for inspection of plants for exporting or transiting.
- 7760. State terminal inspection; transmission of mailed packages for State inspection; nonmailable matter; punishment for violations; rules and regulations by United States Postal Service.

# 7761. Repealed.

#### SUBCHAPTER IV—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

- 7771. Authorization of appropriations.
- 7772. Transfer authority.

# SUBCHAPTER V—NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL AND ERADICATION

- 7781. Definitions.
- 7782. Establishment of program.