

§ 74. Congressional findings and declaration of policy

(a) Grain is an essential source of the world's total supply of human food and animal feed and is merchandised in interstate and foreign commerce. It is declared to be the policy of the Congress, for the promotion and protection of such commerce in the interests of producers, merchandisers, warehousemen, processors, and consumers of grain, and the general welfare of the people of the United States, to provide for the establishment of official United States standards for grain, to promote the uniform application thereof by official inspection personnel, to provide for an official inspection system for grain, and to regulate the weighing and the certification of the weight of grain shipped in interstate or foreign commerce in the manner hereinafter provided; with the objectives that grain may be marketed in an orderly and timely manner and that trading in grain may be facilitated. It is hereby found that all grain and other articles and transactions in grain regulated under this chapter are either in interstate or foreign commerce or substantially affect such commerce and that regulation thereof as provided in this chapter is necessary to prevent or eliminate burdens on such commerce and to regulate effectively such commerce.

(b) It is also declared to be the policy of Congress—

(1) to promote the marketing of grain of high quality to both domestic and foreign buyers;

(2) that the primary objective of the official United States standards for grain is to certify the quality of grain as accurately as practicable; and

(3) that official United States standards for grain shall—

(A) define uniform and accepted descriptive terms to facilitate trade in grain;

(B) provide information to aid in determining grain storability;

(C) offer users of such standards the best possible information from which to determine end-product yield and quality of grain;

(D) provide the framework necessary for markets to establish grain quality improvement incentives;

(E) reflect the economic value-based characteristics in the end uses of grain; and

(F) accommodate scientific advances in testing and new knowledge concerning factors related to, or highly correlated with, the end use performance of grain.

(Aug. 11, 1916, ch. 313, pt. B, § 2, 39 Stat. 482; July 18, 1940, ch. 636, 54 Stat. 765; Pub. L. 90-487, § 1, Aug. 15, 1968, 82 Stat. 761; Pub. L. 94-582, § 2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2867; Pub. L. 99-641, title III, § 302, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3564; Pub. L. 101-624, title XX, § 2004, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3929.)

AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (b)(3)(E), (F). Pub. L. 101-624 added subpars. (E) and (F).

1986—Pub. L. 99-641 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1976—Pub. L. 94-582 expressed the policy of Congress to regulate the weighing and the certification of the weight of grain shipped in interstate or foreign com-

merce and the finding of Congress of the necessity to regulate grain transactions to prevent or eliminate burdens on commerce and to regulate effectively such interstate or foreign commerce, and provided that the grain be marketed in a timely manner.

1968—Pub. L. 90-487 substituted a declaration of policy by the Congress for provisions authorizing promulgation and establishment of grain standards by Secretary of Agriculture.

1940—Act July 18, 1940, inserted “soybeans,” after “flaxseed.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 94-582, § 27, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2889, as amended by Pub. L. 95-113, title XVI, §§ 1602(d), 1605(b), 1607(b), 1608, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 1025, 1030, 1031; Pub. L. 106-472, title I, § 110(c), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2061, provided that: “This Act [see Short Title of 1976 Amendment note set out under section 71 of this title] shall become effective thirty days after enactment hereof [Oct. 21, 1976].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1968 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 90-487, see section 2 of Pub. L. 90-487, set out as a note under section 78 of this title.

§ 75. Definitions

When used in this chapter, except where the context requires otherwise—

(a) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States or delegates of the Secretary;

(b) the term “Department of Agriculture” means the United States Department of Agriculture;

(c) the term “person” means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other business entity;

(d) the term “United States” means the States (including Puerto Rico) and the territories and possessions of the United States (including the District of Columbia);

(e) the term “State” means any one of the States (including Puerto Rico) or territories or possessions of the United States (including the District of Columbia);

(f) the term “interstate or foreign commerce” means commerce from any State to or through any other State, or to or through any foreign country;

(g) the term “grain” means corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley, flaxseed, sorghum, soybeans, mixed grain, and any other food grains, feed grains, and oilseeds for which standards are established under section 76 of this title;

(h) the term “export grain” means grain for shipment from the United States to any place outside thereof;

(i) the term “official inspection” means the determination (by original inspection, and when requested, reinspection and appeal inspection) and the certification, by official inspection personnel of the kind, class, quality, or condition of grain, under standards provided for in this chapter, or the condition of vessels and other carriers or receptacles for the transportation of grain insofar as it may affect the quality or condition of such grain; or other facts relating to grain under other criteria approved by the Secretary under this chapter (the term “officially inspected” shall be construed accordingly);