

99-198, which enacted this chapter and former section 2005a of this title and amended sections 590g, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2009 of this title, sections 4207 and 4209 of Title 7, Agriculture, and provisions set out as a note under section 1981 of Title 7.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3846, Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1246, as added Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1444, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3602, directed Secretary to report to Congress on erodible land and wetland conservation program, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-66, title I, §1011(a), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 709.

A prior section 3847, Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1247, as added Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1445, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3603; amended Pub. L. 102-237, title II, §204(8), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1855, which related to assistance for control of spread of weeds and pests, was omitted in the general amendment of this subchapter by Pub. L. 104-127.

SUBCHAPTER V-A—OTHER CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

§ 3851. Agriculture conservation experienced services program

(a) Establishment and purpose

The Secretary shall establish a conservation experienced services program (in this section referred to as the “ACES Program”) for the purpose of utilizing the talents of individuals who are age 55 or older, but who are not employees of the Department of Agriculture or a State agriculture department, to provide technical services in support of the conservation-related programs and authorities carried out by the Secretary. Such technical services may include conservation planning assistance, technical consultation, and assistance with design and implementation of conservation practices.

(b) Program agreements

(1) Relation to older American community service employment program

Notwithstanding any other provision of law relating to Federal grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts, to carry out the ACES program during a fiscal year, the Secretary may enter into agreements with nonprofit private agencies and organizations eligible to receive grants for that fiscal year under the Community Service Senior Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) to secure participants for the ACES program who will provide technical services under the ACES program.

(2) Required determination

Before entering into an agreement under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure that the agreement would not—

(A) result in the displacement of individuals employed by the Department, including partial displacement through reduction of non-overtime hours, wages, or employment benefits;

(B) result in the use of an individual under the ACES program for a job or function in a case in which a Federal employee is in a lay-off status from the same or a substantially-equivalent job or function with the Department; or

(C) affect existing contracts for services.

(c) Funding source

(1) In general

Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary may carry out the ACES program using funds made available to carry out each program under this chapter.

(2) Exclusion

Funds made available to carry out the conservation reserve program may not be used to carry out the ACES program.

(d) Liability

An individual providing technical services under the ACES program is deemed to be an employee of the United States Government for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28 if the individual—

(1) is providing technical services pursuant to an agreement entered into under subsection (b); and

(2) is acting within the scope of the agreement.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1252, as added Pub. L. 110-234, title II, §2710, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1082, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title II, §2710, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1810; amended Pub. L. 113-79, title II, §2504, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 752.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Community Service Senior Opportunities Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is title V of Pub. L. 89-73, as added Pub. L. 109-365, title V, §501, Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2563, which is classified generally to subchapter IX (§3056 et seq.) of chapter 35 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 3001 of Title 42 and Tables.

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (c)(1), was in the original “this title”, meaning title XII of Pub. L. 99-198, which enacted this chapter and former section 2005a of this title and amended sections 590g, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2009 of this title, sections 4207 and 4209 of Title 7, Agriculture, and provisions set out as a note under section 1981 of Title 7.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234, §2710, and Pub. L. 110-246, §2710, which directed the amendment of subtitle F of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 by inserting this section after section 1251, was executed by inserting this section between subtitles E and G of title XII of that Act to reflect the probable intent of Congress, because subtitle F and section 1251 (16 U.S.C. 2005a) of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 were repealed by Pub. L. 104-127, title III, §336(e), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1007.

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1252 of Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1516, amended sections 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2009 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-127, title III, §336(e), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1007.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 113-79 amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Funds made available to carry out the following programs may not be used to carry out the ACES program:

“(A) The conservation reserve program.

“(B) The wetlands reserve program.

“(C) The grassland reserve program.

“(D) The conservation stewardship program.”

EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the

date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

§ 3851a. Forest Service participation in ACES Program

The Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, may use funds derived from conservation-related programs executed on National Forest System land to utilize the Agriculture Conservation Experienced Services Program established pursuant to section 3851 of this title to provide technical services for conservation-related programs and authorities carried out by the Secretary on National Forest System land.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title VIII, §8302, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 923.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Agricultural Act of 2014, and not as part of title XII of Pub. L. 99-198 which comprises this chapter.

DEFINITION OF “SECRETARY”

“Secretary” as meaning the Secretary of Agriculture, see section 9001 of Title 7, Agriculture.

SUBCHAPTER VI—STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

§ 3861. Establishment of State technical committees

(a) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a technical committee in each State to assist the Secretary in the considerations relating to implementation and technical aspects of the conservation programs under this chapter.

(b) Standards

The Secretary shall review and update as necessary—

- (1) standard operating procedures to standardize the operations of State technical committees; and
- (2) standards to be used by State technical committees in the development of technical guidelines under section 3862(b)¹ of this title for the implementation of the conservation provisions of this chapter.

(c) Composition

Each State technical committee shall be composed of agricultural producers and other professionals that represent a variety of disciplines in the soil, water, wetland, and wildlife sciences. The technical committee for a State shall include representatives from among the following:

- (1) The Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- (2) The Farm Service Agency.
- (3) The Forest Service.
- (4) The National Institute of Food and Agriculture.
- (5) The State fish and wildlife agency.
- (6) The State forester or equivalent State official.
- (7) The State water resources agency.

(8) The State department of agriculture.

(9) The State association of soil and water conservation districts.

(10) Agricultural producers representing the variety of crops and livestock or poultry raised within the State.

(11) Owners of nonindustrial private forest land.

(12) Nonprofit organizations within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of title 26 with demonstrable conservation expertise and experience working with agriculture producers in the State.

(13) Agribusiness.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1261, as added Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1446, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3604; amended Pub. L. 104-127, title III, §342(a), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1009; Pub. L. 110-234, title II, §2711, title VII, §7511(c)(38), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1083, 1271; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title II, §2711, title VII, §7511(c)(38), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1811, 2032; Pub. L. 113-79, title II, §2607, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 760.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b)(2), was in the original “this title”, meaning title XII of Pub. L. 99-198, which enacted this chapter and former section 2005a of this title and amended sections 590g, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2009 of this title, sections 4207 and 4209 of Title 7, Agriculture, and provisions set out as a note under section 1981 of Title 7.

Section 3862 of this title, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), was amended generally by Pub. L. 110-246, title II, §2711, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1812, and, as so amended, no longer contains provisions relating to development of technical guidelines.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-79, in introductory provisions, substituted “The Secretary shall review and update as necessary” for “Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, the Secretary shall develop”.

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §2711, which directed the general amendment of section 1261 of the “Farm Security Act of 1985”, was executed by making the amendment to this section, which is section 1261 of the Food Security Act of 1985, to reflect the probable intent of Congress. Prior to amendment, section related to the establishment in each State of a technical committee to assist the Secretary in the technical considerations relating to implementation of conservation provisions under this chapter, composition of each such committee, and development of standards to be used in the development of guidelines under former section 3862(b) of this title.

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 110-246, §7511(c)(38), which directed amendment of par. (4) by substituting “National Institute of Food and Agriculture” for “Extension Service”, could not be executed because “Extension Service” did not appear subsequent to amendment by Pub. L. 110-246, §2711. See above.

1996—Subsec. (c)(9) to (12). Pub. L. 104-127 added pars. (9) to (12).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the

¹ See References in Text note below.