

shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting business.

**(h) Federal Advisory Committee Act**

The Board shall be exempt from the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

**(i) Personnel**

The Board shall, without regard to the provisions of title 5 relating to the competitive service, appoint a Staff Director who shall be paid at a rate equivalent to a rate established for the Senior Executive Service under section 5382 of title 5. The Board shall appoint such additional personnel as the Board determines to be necessary to provide adequate support for the Board, and may compensate such additional personnel without regard to the provisions of title 5 relating to the competitive service.

**(j) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated, out of the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, and the general fund of the Treasury, such sums as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title VII, §703, 49 Stat. 636; Aug. 28, 1950, ch. 809, title III, pt. 6, §361(c), (d), 64 Stat. 558; Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title VI, §2663(l)(1), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1171; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, §103, Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1467; Pub. L. 104-121, title I, §108, Mar. 29, 1996, 110 Stat. 857; Pub. L. 105-33, title V, §5526, Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 625; Pub. L. 106-169, title II, §251(b)(4), Dec. 14, 1999, 113 Stat. 1855; Pub. L. 108-203, title IV, §417(a), Mar. 2, 2004, 118 Stat. 530.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Level IV of the Executive Schedule, referred to in subsec. (f), is set out under section 5315 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (h), is Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

The provisions of title 5 relating to the competitive service, referred to in subsec. (i), are classified generally to section 3301 et seq. of Title 5.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 108-203 amended heading and text of subsec. (f) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Members of the Board shall serve without compensation, except that, while serving on business of the Board away from their homes or regular places of business, members may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5 for persons in the Government employed intermittently.”

1999—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-169 substituted “subchapter II of this chapter, the program of special benefits for certain World War II veterans under subchapter VIII of this chapter,” for “subchapter II of this chapter” in introductory provisions.

1997—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 105-33 struck out “, and three professional staff members one of whom shall be appointed from among individuals approved by the members of the Board who are not members of the political party represented by the majority of the Board,” after “Staff Director” and “clerical” after “provide adequate”.

1996—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 104-121 inserted “, and three professional staff members one of whom shall be ap-

pointed from among individuals approved by the members of the Board who are not members of the political party represented by the majority of the Board,” after “Staff Director”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-296 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “The Secretary is authorized to appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees, and to make such expenditures, as may be necessary for carrying out his functions under this chapter. Appointments of attorneys and experts may be made without regard to the civil-service laws.”

1984—Pub. L. 98-369 substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator”.

1950—Act Aug. 28, 1950, substituted “Administrator” for “Board” and “his” for “its”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-203, title IV, §417(b), Mar. 2, 2004, 118 Stat. 531, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall be effective as of January 1, 2003.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-33, title V, §5528, Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 625, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this section, the amendments made by this chapter [chapter 2 (§§5521-5528) of subtitle F of title V of Pub. L. 105-33, amending this section, sections 1310, 1382, 1382c, 1382d, and 1383 of this title, and provisions set out as a note under section 1382 of this title and repealing provisions set out as notes under sections 425 and 1382 of this title] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of title II of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-193; 110 Stat. 2185).

“(b) SECTION 5524 AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by section 5524 of this Act [amending section 1310 of this title] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Social Security Independence and Program Improvements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-296; 108 Stat. 1464).

“(c) SECTION 5525 AMENDMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) of section 5525 of this Act [amending provisions set out as a note under section 1382 of this title] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 105 of the Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121; 110 Stat. 852 et seq.).

“(2) REPEALS.—The repeals made by section 5525(c) [repealing provisions set out as notes under sections 425 and 1382 of this title] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 5, 1997].

“(d) SECTION 5526 AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by section 5526 of this Act [amending this section] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 108 of the Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121; 110 Stat. 857).

“(e) SECTION 5227.—Section 5227 [probably means section 5527 of this Act which is set out as a note under section 909 of this title] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-369 effective July 18, 1984, but not to be construed as changing or affecting any right, liability, status, or interpretation which existed (under the provisions of law involved) before that date, see section 2664(b) of Pub. L. 98-369, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

**§ 904. Administrative duties of Commissioner**

**(a) Personnel**

(1) The Commissioner shall appoint such additional officers and employees as the Commissioner considers necessary to carry out the func-

tions of the Administration under this chapter, and attorneys and experts may be appointed without regard to the civil service laws. Except as otherwise provided in the preceding sentence or in any other provision of law, such officers and employees shall be appointed, and their compensation shall be fixed, in accordance with title 5.

(2) The Commissioner may procure the services of experts and consultants in accordance with the provisions of section 3109 of title 5.

(3) Notwithstanding any requirements of section 3133 of title 5, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall authorize for the Administration a total number of Senior Executive Service positions which is substantially greater than the number of such positions authorized in the Social Security Administration in the Department of Health and Human Services as of immediately before August 15, 1994, to the extent that the greater number of such authorized positions is specified in the comprehensive work force plan as established and revised by the Commissioner under subsection (b)(2) of this section. The total number of such positions authorized for the Administration shall not at any time be less than the number of such authorized positions as of immediately before such date.

**(b) Budgetary matters**

(1)(A) The Commissioner shall prepare an annual budget for the Administration, which shall be submitted by the President to the Congress without revision, together with the President's annual budget for the Administration.

(B) The Commissioner shall include in the annual budget prepared pursuant to subparagraph (A) an itemization of the amount of funds required by the Social Security Administration for the fiscal year covered by the budget to support efforts to combat fraud committed by applicants and beneficiaries.

(2)(A) Appropriations requests for staffing and personnel of the Administration shall be based upon a comprehensive work force plan, which shall be established and revised from time to time by the Commissioner.

(B) Appropriations for administrative expenses of the Administration are authorized to be provided on a biennial basis.

(3) For each fiscal year beginning with 2016 and ending with 2021, the Commissioner shall include in the annual budget prepared pursuant to subparagraph (A) a report describing the purposes for which amounts made available for purposes described in section 901(b)(2)(B) of title 2 for the fiscal year were expended by the Social Security Administration and the purposes for which the Commissioner plans for the Administration to expend such funds in the succeeding fiscal year, including—

(A) the total such amount expended;

(B) the amount expended on co-operative disability investigation units;

(C) the number of cases of fraud prevented by co-operative disability investigation units and the amount expended on such cases (as reported to the Commissioner by the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration);

(D) the number of felony cases prosecuted under section 408 of this title (as reported to the Commissioner by the Inspector General) and the amount expended by the Social Security Administration in supporting the prosecution of such cases;

(E) the amount of such felony cases successfully prosecuted (as reported to the Commissioner by the Inspector General) and the amount expended by the Social Security Administration in supporting the prosecution of such cases;

(F) the amount expended on and the number of completed—

(i) continuing disability reviews conducted by mail;

(ii) redeterminations conducted by mail;

(iii) medical continuing disability reviews conducted pursuant to section 421(i) of this title;

(iv) medical continuing disability reviews conducted pursuant to 1382c(a)(3)(H)<sup>1</sup> of this title;

(v) redeterminations conducted pursuant to section 1382(c) of this title; and

(vi) work-related continuing disability reviews to determine whether earnings derived from services demonstrate an individual's ability to engage in substantial gainful activity;

(G) the number of cases of fraud identified for which benefits were terminated as a result of medical continuing disability reviews (as reported to the Commissioner by the Inspector General), work-related continuing disability reviews, and redeterminations, and the amount of resulting savings for each such type of review or redetermination; and

(H) the number of work-related continuing disability reviews in which a beneficiary improperly reported earnings derived from services for more than 3 consecutive months, and the amount of resulting savings.

**(c) Employment restriction**

The total number of positions in the Administration (other than positions established under section 902 of this title) which—

(1) are held by noncareer appointees (within the meaning of section 3132(a)(7) of title 5) in the Senior Executive Service, or

(2) have been determined by the President or the Office of Personnel Management to be of a confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character and have been excepted from the competitive service thereby,

may not exceed at any time the equivalent of 20 full-time positions.

**(d) Seal of office**

The Commissioner shall cause a seal of office to be made for the Administration of such design as the Commissioner shall approve. Judicial notice shall be taken of such seal.

**(e) Data exchanges**

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including subsections (b), (o), (p), (q), (r), and (u) of section 552a of title 5—

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be preceded by "section".

(A) the Secretary shall disclose to the Commissioner any record or information requested in writing by the Commissioner for the purpose of administering any program administered by the Commissioner, if records or information of such type were disclosed to the Commissioner of Social Security in the Department of Health and Human Services under applicable rules, regulations, and procedures in effect before August 15, 1994; and

(B) the Commissioner shall disclose to the Secretary or to any State any record or information requested in writing by the Secretary to be so disclosed for the purpose of administering any program administered by the Secretary, if records or information of such type were so disclosed under applicable rules, regulations, and procedures in effect before August 15, 1994.

(2) The Commissioner and the Secretary shall enter into an agreement under which the Commissioner provides the Secretary data concerning the quality of the services and information provided to beneficiaries of the programs under subchapters XVIII and XIX of this chapter and the administrative services provided by the Social Security Administration in support of such programs. Such agreement shall stipulate the type of data to be provided and the terms and conditions under which the data are to be provided.

(3) The Commissioner and the Secretary shall periodically review the need for exchanges of information not referred to in paragraph (1) or (2) and shall enter into such agreements as may be necessary and appropriate to provide information to each other or to States in order to meet the programmatic needs of the requesting agencies.

(4)(A) Any disclosure from a system of records (as defined in section 552a(a)(5) of title 5) pursuant to this subsection shall be made as a routine use under subsection (b)(3) of section 552a of such title (unless otherwise authorized under such section 552a).

(B) Any computerized comparison of records, including matching programs, between the Commissioner and the Secretary shall be conducted in accordance with subsections (o), (p), (q), (r), and (u) of section 552a of title 5.

(5) The Commissioner and the Secretary shall each ensure that timely action is taken to establish any necessary routine uses for disclosures required under paragraph (1) or agreed to pursuant to paragraph (3).

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title VII, § 704, 49 Stat. 636; Aug. 28, 1950, ch. 809, title IV, § 402(b), 64 Stat. 558; Pub. L. 94-273, § 33, Apr. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 380; Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title VI, § 2663(l)(1), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1171; Pub. L. 103-296, title I, § 104(a), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1470; Pub. L. 106-169, title II, § 211(a), Dec. 14, 1999, 113 Stat. 1842; Pub. L. 114-74, title VIII, § 845(a), Nov. 2, 2015, 129 Stat. 618.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 114-74 added par. (3).

1999—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 106-169 designated existing provisions as subpar. (A) and added subpar. (B).

1994—Pub. L. 103-296 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: "The Secretary

shall make a full report to Congress, within one hundred and twenty days after the beginning of each regular session, of the administration of the functions with which he is charged under this chapter. In addition to the number of copies of such report authorized by other law to be printed, there is hereby authorized to be printed not more than five thousand copies of such report for use by the Secretary for distribution to Members of Congress and to State and other public or private agencies or organizations participating in or concerned with the social security program."

1984—Pub. L. 98-369 substituted "Secretary" for "Administrator".

1976—Pub. L. 94-273 substituted "within one hundred and twenty days after the beginning" for "at the beginning".

1950—Act Aug. 28, 1950, substituted "Administrator" for "Board" in first sentence and added second sentence.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1999 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-169, title II, § 211(b), Dec. 14, 1999, 113 Stat. 1842, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply with respect to annual budgets prepared for fiscal years after fiscal year 1999."

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103-296, title I, § 104(c), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1472, provided that:

"(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 704(e)(4) of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 904(e)(4)] (as amended by subsection (a)) shall take effect March 31, 1996.

"(2) TRANSITION RULE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including subsections (b), (o), (p), (q), (r), and (u) of section 552a of title 5, United States Code), arrangements for disclosure of records or other information, and arrangements for computer matching of records, which were in effect immediately before the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 15, 1994] between the Social Security Administration in the Department of Health and Human Services and other components of such Department may continue between the Social Security Administration established under section 701 of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 901] (as amended by this Act) and such Department during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending March 31, 1996."

Amendment by section 104(a) of Pub. L. 103-296 effective Mar. 31, 1995, except as otherwise provided, see section 110(a) of Pub. L. 103-296, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-369 effective July 18, 1984, but not to be construed as changing or affecting any right, liability, status, or interpretation which existed (under the provisions of law involved) before that date, see section 2664(b) of Pub. L. 98-369, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

#### EXPEDITED EXAMINATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

Pub. L. 114-74, title VIII, § 846, Nov. 2, 2015, 129 Stat. 620, provided that:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Office of Personnel Management shall, upon request of the Commissioner of Social Security, expeditiously administer a sufficient number of competitive examinations, as determined by the Commissioner, for the purpose of identifying an adequate number of candidates to be appointed as Administrative Law Judges under section 3105 of title 5, United States Code. The first such examination shall take place not later than April 1, 2016 and other examinations shall take place at such time or times requested by the Commissioner, but not later than December 31, 2022. Such examinations shall proceed even if one or more individuals who took a prior examination have appealed an ad-

verse determination and one or more of such appeals have not concluded, provided that—

“(1) the Commissioner of Social Security has made a determination that delaying the examination poses a significant risk that an adequate number of Administrative Law Judges will not be available to meet the need of the Social Security Administration to reduce or prevent a backlog of cases awaiting a hearing;

“(2) an individual whose appeal is pending is provided an option to continue their appeal or elects to take the new examination, in which case the appeal is considered vacated; and

“(3) an individual who decides to continue his or her appeal and who ultimately prevails in the appeal shall receive expeditious consideration for hire by the Office Personnel Management and the Commissioner of Social Security.

“(b) PAYMENT OF COSTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commissioner of Social Security shall pay the full cost associated with each examination conducted pursuant to subsection (a).”

REPORT ON SES POSITIONS UNDER COMPREHENSIVE  
WORK FORCE PLAN

Pub. L. 103-296, title I, §104(b), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1472, provided that within 60 days after establishment by Commissioner of Social Security of comprehensive work force plan required under subsec. (b)(2) of this section, Director of Office of Personnel Management was to transmit to Congress a report specifying total number of Senior Executive Services positions authorized for Social Security Administration in connection with such work force plan.

**§§ 905, 905a. Transferred**

CODIFICATION

Section 905, act July 5, 1952, ch. 575, title II, §201, 66 Stat. 369, as amended, which related to the working capital fund, was transferred to section 3513 of this title.

Section 905a, act Aug. 10, 1971, Pub. L. 92-80, title II, §200, 85 Stat. 297, which related to additional use of the working capital fund, was transferred to section 3513b of this title.

**§ 906. Training grants for public welfare personnel**

**(a) Authorization of appropriations**

In order to assist in increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of administration of public assistance programs by increasing the number of adequately trained public welfare personnel available for work in public assistance programs, there are hereby authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1963, the sum of \$3,500,000, and for each fiscal year thereafter the sum of \$5,000,000.

**(b) Allocation for carrying out direct grant programs**

Such portion of the sums appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for any fiscal year as the Secretary may determine, but not in excess of \$1,000,000 in the case of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1963, and \$2,000,000 in the case of any fiscal year thereafter, shall be available for carrying out subsection (f) of this section. From the remainder of the sums so appropriated for any fiscal year, the Secretary shall make allotments to the States on the basis of (1) population, (2) relative need for trained public welfare personnel, particularly for personnel to provide self-support and self-care services, and (3) financial need.

**(c) Payments to States for cost of grant programs to certain agencies and institutions**

From each State's allotment under subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary shall from time to time pay to such State its costs of carrying out the purposes of this section through (1) grants to public or other nonprofit institutions of higher learning for training personnel employed or preparing for employment in public assistance programs, (2) special courses of study or seminars of short duration conducted for such personnel by experts hired on a temporary basis for the purpose, and (3) establishing and maintaining, directly or through grants to such institutions, fellowships or traineeships for such personnel at such institutions, with such stipends and allowances as may be permitted under regulations of the Secretary.

**(d) Advance payments to States**

Payments pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be made in advance on the basis of estimates by the Secretary and adjustments may be made in future payments under this section to take account of overpayments or underpayments in amounts previously paid.

**(e) Reallotments**

The amount of any allotment to a State under subsection (b) of this section for any fiscal year which the State certifies to the Secretary will not be required for carrying out the purposes of this section in such State shall be available for reallotment from time to time, on such dates as the Secretary may fix, to other States which the Secretary determines have need in carrying out such purposes for sums in excess of those previously allotted to them under this section and will be able to use such excess amounts during such fiscal year; such reallotments to be made on the basis provided in subsection (b) of this section for the initial allotments to the States. Any amount so reallotted to a State shall be deemed part of its allotment under such subsection.

**(f) Direct grants to certain agencies and institutions**

(1) The portion of the sums appropriated for any fiscal year which is determined by the Secretary under the first sentence of subsection (b) of this section to be available for carrying out this subsection shall be available to enable him to provide (A) directly or through grants to or contracts with public or nonprofit private institutions of higher learning, for training personnel who are employed or preparing for employment in the administration of public assistance programs, (B) directly or through grants to or contracts with public or nonprofit private agencies or institutions, for special courses of study or seminars of short duration (not in excess of one year) for training of such personnel, and (C) directly or through grants to or contracts with public or nonprofit private institutions of higher learning, for establishing and maintaining fellowships or traineeships for such personnel at such institutions, with such stipends and allowances as may be permitted by the Secretary.

(2) Payments under paragraph (1) may be made in advance on the basis of estimates by the Secretary, or may be made by way of reimburse-