

“document” means a Presidential proclamation or Executive order and an order, regulation, rule, certificate, code of fair competition, license, notice, or similar instrument, issued, prescribed, or promulgated by a Federal agency;

“Federal agency” or “agency” means the President of the United States, or an executive department, independent board, establishment, bureau, agency, institution, commission, or separate office of the administrative branch of the Government of the United States but not the legislative or judicial branches of the Government;

“person” means an individual, partnership, association, or corporation; and

“National Archives of the United States” has the same meaning as in section 2901(11) of this title.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1273; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(2), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2286.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §304 (July 26, 1935, ch. 417, §4, 49 Stat. 501).

#### AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-497 inserted definition of “National Archives of the United States”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

### § 1502. Custody and printing of Federal documents; appointment of Director

The Archivist of the United States, acting through the Office of the Federal Register, is charged with the custody and, together with the Director of the Government Publishing Office, with the prompt and uniform printing and distribution of the documents required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title. There shall be at the head of the Office a director, appointed by, and who shall act under the general direction of, the Archivist of the United States in carrying out this chapter and the regulations prescribed under it.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1273; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(3), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2287; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1301(c)(1), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §301 (July 26, 1935, ch. 417, §1, 49 Stat. 500; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, §202, eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2732, 53 Stat. 1435; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §104(a), 63 Stat. 381).

#### AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-235 substituted “Director of the Government Publishing Office” for “Public Printer”.

1984—Pub. L. 98-497 substituted “Archivist of the United States” for “Administrator of General Services” wherever appearing.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

### § 1503. Filing documents with Office; notation of time; public inspection; transmission for printing

The original and two duplicate originals or certified copies of a document required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title shall be filed with the Office of the Federal Register, which shall be open for that purpose during all hours of the working days when the National Archives Building is open for official business. The Archivist of the United States shall cause to be noted on the original and duplicate originals or certified copies of each document the day and hour of filing. When the original is issued, prescribed, or promulgated outside the District of Columbia, and certified copies are filed before the filing of the original, the notation shall be of the day and hour of filing of the certified copies. Upon filing, at least one copy shall be immediately available for public inspection in the Office. The original shall be retained by the National Archives and Records Administration and shall be available for inspection under regulations prescribed by the Archivist, unless such original is disposed of in accordance with disposal schedules submitted by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register and authorized by the Archivist pursuant to regulations issued under chapter 33 of this title; however, originals of proclamations of the President and Executive orders shall be permanently retained by the Administration as part of the National Archives of the United States. The Office shall transmit immediately to the Government Publishing Office for printing, as provided by this chapter, one duplicate original or certified copy of each document required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title. Every Federal agency shall cause to be transmitted for filing the original and the duplicate originals or certified copies of all such documents issued, prescribed, or promulgated by the agency.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1274; Pub. L. 95-440, §2, Oct. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 1063; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(4), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2287; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1301(b), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §302 (July 26, 1935, ch. 417, §2, 49 Stat. 500; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §104(a), 63 Stat. 381).

#### AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-497 substituted “Archivist of the United States” for “Administrator of General Services”, “National Archives and Records Administration” for “General Services Administration”, and “Archivist” for “Administrator” wherever appearing.

1978—Pub. L. 95-440 substituted provision for retention of original documents by the General Services Administration for prior provision for retention in the archives of the National Archives and inserted provisions dispensing with such retention when disposals are made in accordance with disposal schedules and requiring retention of original proclamations of the President and Executive orders as part of the National Archives.

#### CHANGE OF NAME

“Government Publishing Office” substituted for “Government Printing Office” in text on authority of

section 1301(b) of Pub. L. 113-235, set out as a note preceding section 301 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

**§ 1504. “Federal Register”; printing; contents; distribution; price**

Documents required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title shall be printed and distributed immediately by the Government Publishing Office in a serial publication designated the “Federal Register.” The Director of the Government Publishing Office shall make available the facilities of the Government Publishing Office for the prompt printing and distribution of the Federal Register in the manner and at the times required by this chapter and the regulations prescribed under it. The contents of the daily issues shall be indexed and shall comprise all documents, required or authorized to be published, filed with the Office of the Federal Register up to the time of the day immediately preceding the day of distribution fixed by regulations under this chapter. There shall be printed with each document a copy of the notation, required to be made by section 1503 of this title, of the day and hour when, upon filing with the Office, the document was made available for public inspection. Distribution shall be made by delivery or by deposit at a post office at a time in the morning of the day of distribution fixed by regulations prescribed under this chapter. The prices to be charged for the Federal Register may be fixed by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register established by section 1506 of this title without reference to the restrictions placed upon and fixed for the sale of Government publications by sections 1705 and 1708 of this title.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1274; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, § 1301(b), (c)(1), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964, ed., § 303 (July 26, 1935, ch. 417, § 3, 49 Stat. 500).

AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-235, § 1301(c)(1), substituted “Director of the Government Publishing Office” for “Public Printer”.

CHANGE OF NAME

“Government Publishing Office” substituted for “Government Printing Office” in text on authority of section 1301(b) of Pub. L. 113-235, set out as a note preceding section 301 of this title.

**§ 1505. Documents to be published in Federal Register**

(a) PROCLAMATIONS AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS; DOCUMENTS HAVING GENERAL APPLICABILITY AND LEGAL EFFECT; DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED BY CONGRESS. There shall be published in the Federal Register—

(1) Presidential proclamations and Executive orders, except those not having general applicability and legal effect or effective only

against Federal agencies or persons in their capacity as officers, agents, or employees thereof;

(2) documents or classes of documents that the President may determine from time to time have general applicability and legal effect; and

(3) documents or classes of documents that may be required so to be published by Act of Congress.

For the purposes of this chapter every document or order which prescribes a penalty has general applicability and legal effect.

(b) DOCUMENTS AUTHORIZED TO BE PUBLISHED BY REGULATIONS; COMMENTS AND NEWS ITEMS EXCLUDED. In addition to the foregoing there shall also be published in the Federal Register other documents or classes of documents authorized to be published by regulations prescribed under this chapter with the approval of the President, but comments or news items of any character may not be published in the Federal Register.

(c) SUSPENSION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR FILING OF DOCUMENTS; ALTERNATE SYSTEMS FOR PROMULGATING, FILING, OR PUBLISHING DOCUMENTS; PRESERVATION OF ORIGINALS. In the event of an attack or threatened attack upon the continental United States and a determination by the President that as a result of an attack or threatened attack—

(1) publication of the Federal Register or filing of documents with the Office of the Federal Register is impracticable, or

(2) under existing conditions publication in the Federal Register would not serve to give appropriate notice to the public of the contents of documents, the President may, without regard to any other provision of law, suspend all or part of the requirements of law or regulation for filing with the Office or publication in the Federal Register of documents or classes of documents.

The suspensions shall remain in effect until revoked by the President, or by concurrent resolution of the Congress. The President shall establish alternate systems for promulgating, filing, or publishing documents or classes of documents affected by such suspensions, including requirements relating to their effectiveness or validity, that may be considered under the then existing circumstances practicable to provide public notice of the issuance and of the contents of the documents. The alternate systems may, without limitation, provide for the use of regional or specialized publications or depositories for documents, or of the press, the radio, or similar mediums of general communication. Compliance with alternate systems of filing or publication shall have the same effect as filing with the Office or publication in the Federal Register under this chapter or other law or regulation. With respect to documents promulgated under alternate systems, each agency shall preserve the original and two duplicate originals or two certified copies for filing with the Office when the President determines that it is practicable.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1274.)