

highway program as part of the Administration's efforts to restructure its field organization.

“(2) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall eliminate regional offices, create technical resource centers, and, to the maximum extent practicable, delegate authority to State offices of the Federal Highway Administration.

“(b) PREFERENCE.—In locating the technical resource centers, the Secretary shall give preference to cities that house, on the date of enactment of this Act [June 9, 1998], the Federal Highway Administration regional offices and are in locations that minimize the travel distance between the technical resource centers and the Federal Highway Administration division offices that will be served by the new technical resource centers.

“(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall transmit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a detailed implementation plan to carry out this section not later than September 30, 1998, and thereafter provide periodic progress reports on carrying out this section to such Committees.

“(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall begin implementation of the plan transmitted under subsection (c) not later than December 31, 1998.”

§ 105. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

(a) The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is an administration in the Department of Transportation.

(b) The head of the Administration is the Administrator who is appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Administration has a Deputy Administrator who is appointed by the Secretary of Transportation, with the approval of the President.

(c) The Administrator shall carry out—

(1) duties and powers vested in the Secretary by chapter 4 of title 23, except those related to highway design, construction and maintenance, traffic control devices, identification and surveillance of accident locations, and highway-related aspects of pedestrian safety; and

(2) additional duties and powers prescribed by the Secretary.

(d) The Secretary may carry out chapter 301 of this title through the Administrator.

(e) The Administrator shall consult with the Federal Highway Administrator on all matters related to the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of highways.

(Pub. L. 97-449, §1(b), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2415; Pub. L. 103-272, §5(m)(3), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1375.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
105	23:401 (note).	Sept. 9, 1966, Pub. L. 89-564, §201(a) (less pay of Administrator and Deputy Administrator), (b)(2), (c), (d), 80 Stat. 735; Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §8(h), 80 Stat. 943; restated Dec. 31, 1970, Pub. L. 91-605, §202(a), 84 Stat. 1739.

In subsection (a), the words “The . . . is an administration in the” are substituted for “There is hereby established within the”, in section 201(a) (1st sentence) of

the Highway Safety Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-564, 80 Stat. 731) to conform to other sections of the revised title. The words “(hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘Administration’)” are omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (c), the words “carry out . . . duties and powers . . . prescribed by the Secretary” are substituted for “perform such duties as are delegated to him by the Secretary” to eliminate surplus words and for consistency. The list of excepted programs in clause (1) is substituted for “highway safety programs, research and development not specifically referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection”, in section 201(b)(2) of the Highway Safety Act of 1966 for clarity.

In subsection (d), the words “Administration . . . authorized by this section” are omitted as surplus.

The text of section 201(d) of the Highway Safety Act of 1966 is omitted as executed.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 103-272 substituted “chapter 301 of this title” for “the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.)”.

REQUIRED REPORTING OF NHTSA AGENDA

Pub. L. 114-94, div. B, title XXIV, §24401, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1720, provided that: “Not later than December 1 of the year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 4, 2015], and each year thereafter, the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall publish on the public website of the Administration, and file with the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate an annual plan for the following calendar year detailing the Administration’s projected activities, including—

- “(1) the Administrator’s policy priorities;
- “(2) any rulemakings projected to be commenced;
- “(3) any plans to develop guidelines;
- “(4) any plans to restructure the Administration or to establish or alter working groups;
- “(5) any planned projects or initiatives of the Administration, including the working groups and advisory committees of the Administration; and
- “(6) any projected dates or timetables associated with any of the items described in paragraphs (1) through (5).”

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION ELECTRONICS, SOFTWARE, AND ENGINEERING EXPERTISE

Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title I, §31401, July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 772, provided that:

“(a) COUNCIL FOR VEHICLE ELECTRONICS, VEHICLE SOFTWARE, AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary [of Transportation] shall establish, within the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a Council for Vehicle Electronics, Vehicle Software, and Emerging Technologies (referred to in this section as the ‘Council’) to build, integrate, and aggregate the Administration’s expertise in passenger motor vehicle electronics and other new and emerging technologies.

“(2) IMPLEMENTATION OF ROADMAP.—The Council shall research the inclusion of emerging lightweight plastic and composite technologies in motor vehicles to increase fuel efficiency, lower emissions, meet fuel economy standards, and enhance passenger motor vehicle safety through continued utilization of the Administration’s Plastic and Composite Intensive Vehicle Safety Roadmap (Report No. DOT HS 810 863).

“(3) INTRA-AGENCY COORDINATION.—The Council shall coordinate with all components of the Administration responsible for vehicle safety, including research and development, rulemaking, and defects investigation.

“(b) HONORS RECRUITMENT PROGRAM.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish, within the National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-

ministration, an honors program for engineering students, computer science students, and other students interested in vehicle safety that will enable such students to train with engineers and other safety officials for careers in vehicle safety.

“(2) STIPEND.—The Secretary is authorized to provide a stipend to any student during the student’s participation in the program established under paragraph (1).

“(c) ASSESSMENT.—The Council, in consultation with affected stakeholders, shall periodically assess the implications of emerging safety technologies in passenger motor vehicles, including the effect of such technologies on consumers, product availability, and cost.”

§ 106. Federal Aviation Administration

(a) The Federal Aviation Administration is an administration in the Department of Transportation.

(b) The head of the Administration is the Administrator, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. When making an appointment, the President shall consider the fitness of the individual to carry out efficiently the duties and powers of the office. Except as provided in subsection (f) or in other provisions of law, the Administrator reports directly to the Secretary of Transportation. The term of office for any individual appointed as Administrator after August 23, 1994, shall be 5 years.

(c) The Administrator must—

(1) be a citizen of the United States;

(2) be a civilian; and

(3) have experience in a field directly related to aviation.

(d)(1) The Administration has a Deputy Administrator, who shall be appointed by the President. In making an appointment, the President shall consider the fitness of the appointee to efficiently carry out the duties and powers of the office. The Deputy Administrator shall be a citizen of the United States and have experience in a field directly related to aviation. An officer on active duty in an armed force may be appointed as Deputy Administrator. However, if the Administrator is a former regular officer of an armed force, the Deputy Administrator may not be an officer on active duty in an armed force, a retired regular officer of an armed force, or a former regular officer of an armed force.

(2) The annual rate of basic pay of the Deputy Administrator shall be set by the Secretary but shall not exceed the annual rate of basic pay payable to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

(3) An officer on active duty or a retired officer serving as Deputy Administrator is entitled to hold a rank and grade not lower than that held when appointed as Deputy Administrator. The Deputy Administrator may elect to receive (A) the pay provided by law for the Deputy Administrator, or (B) the pay and allowances or the retired pay of the military grade held. If the Deputy Administrator elects to receive the military pay and allowances or retired pay, the Administration shall reimburse the appropriate military department from funds available for the expenses of the Administration.

(4) The appointment and service of a member of the armed forces as a Deputy Administrator does not affect the status, office, rank, or grade

held by that member, or a right or benefit arising from the status, office, rank, or grade. The Secretary of a military department does not control the member when the member is carrying out duties and powers of the Deputy Administrator.

(e) The Administrator and the Deputy Administrator may not have a pecuniary interest in, or own stock in or bonds of, an aeronautical enterprise, or engage in another business, vocation, or employment.

(f) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY AND THE ADMINISTRATOR.—

(1) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary of Transportation shall carry out the duties and powers, and controls the personnel and activities, of the Administration. Neither the Secretary nor the Administrator may submit decisions for the approval of, or be bound by the decisions or recommendations of, a committee, board, or organization established by executive order.

(2) AUTHORITY OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.—The Administrator—

(A) is the final authority for carrying out all functions, powers, and duties of the Administration relating to—

(i) the appointment and employment of all officers and employees of the Administration (other than Presidential and political appointees);

(ii) the acquisition and maintenance of property, services, and equipment of the Administration;

(iii) except as otherwise provided in paragraph (3), the promulgation of regulations, rules, orders, circulars, bulletins, and other official publications of the Administration; and

(iv) any obligation imposed on the Administrator, or power conferred on the Administrator, by the Air Traffic Management System Performance Improvement Act of 1996 (or any amendment made by that Act);

(B) shall offer advice and counsel to the President with respect to the appointment and qualifications of any officer or employee of the Administration to be appointed by the President or as a political appointee;

(C) may delegate, and authorize successive redelegations of, to an officer or employee of the Administration any function, power, or duty conferred upon the Administrator, unless such delegation is prohibited by law; and

(D) except as otherwise provided for in this title, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, shall not be required to coordinate, submit for approval or concurrence, or seek the advice or views of the Secretary or any other officer or employee of the Department of Transportation on any matter with respect to which the Administrator is the final authority.

(3) REGULATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the performance of the functions of the Administrator and the Administration, the Administrator is author-