

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION  
SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

RIGHT OF EXPATRIATION

R.S. §1999 provided that: "Whereas the right of expatriation is a natural and inherent right of all people, indispensable to the enjoyment of the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and whereas in the recognition of this principle this Government has freely received emigrants from all nations, and invested them with the rights of citizenship; and whereas it is claimed that such American citizens, with their descendants, are subjects of foreign states, owing allegiance to the governments thereof; and whereas it is necessary to the maintenance of public peace that this claim of foreign allegiance should be promptly and finally disavowed; Therefore any declaration, instruction, opinion, order, or decision of any officer of the United States which denies, restricts, impairs, or questions the right of expatriation, is declared inconsistent with the fundamental principles of the Republic."

**§ 1482. Repealed. Pub. L. 95-432, § 1, Oct. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 1046**

Section, act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §350, 66 Stat. 269, provided that an individual with dual nationality who voluntarily claims the benefits of the foreign state nationality loses his United States nationality by having continuous residence in the foreign state for 3 years after having attained 22 years of age unless prior to the 3 year period he takes an oath of allegiance to the United States, or his residence in the foreign state was for a reason specified in section 1485(1), (2), (4), (5), (6), (7), or (8) of this title or section 1486(1) or (2) of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Pub. L. 95-432, §1, Oct. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 1046, provided that repeal of this section is effective Oct. 10, 1978.

**§ 1483. Restrictions on loss of nationality**

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (6) and (7) of section 1481(a) of this title, no national of the United States can lose United States nationality under this chapter while within the United States or any of its outlying possessions, but loss of nationality shall result from the performance within the United States or any of its outlying possessions of any of the acts or the fulfillment of any of the conditions specified in this Part if and when the national thereafter takes up a residence outside the United States and its outlying possessions.

(b) A national who within six months after attaining the age of eighteen years asserts his claim to United States nationality, in such manner as the Secretary of State shall by regulation prescribe, shall not be deemed to have lost United States nationality by the commission, prior to his eighteenth birthday, of any of the acts specified in paragraphs (3) and (5) of section 1481(a) of this title.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §351, 66 Stat. 269; Pub. L. 97-116, §18(r), Dec. 29, 1981, 95 Stat. 1621; Pub. L. 99-653, §20, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3658; Pub. L. 100-525, §8(o), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2618; Pub. L. 103-416, title I, §105(a), Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4308; Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title VI, §671(b)(3), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-721.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original, "this Act", meaning act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, known as the Immigration and Nationality Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1101 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-208 struck out comma after "United States nationality".

1994—Pub. L. 103-416 in section catchline substituted "loss of nationality" for "expatriation", in subsec. (a) substituted "lose United States nationality" for "expatriate himself, or be expatriated" and "loss of nationality" for "expatriation", and in subsec. (b) substituted "lost United States nationality" for "expatriated himself".

1988—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-525 amended Pub. L. 99-653. See 1986 Amendment note below.

1986—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 99-653, as amended by Pub. L. 100-525, substituted "paragraphs (3)" for "paragraphs (2), (4)".

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-116, §18(r)(1), substituted "paragraphs (6) and (7) of section 1481(a)" for "paragraphs (7), (8), and (9) of section 1481".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 97-116, §18(r)(2), substituted "and (5)" for "(5), and (6)".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-208 effective as if included in the enactment of the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-416, see section 671(b)(14) of Pub. L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-525 effective as if included in the enactment of the Immigration and Nationality Act Amendments of 1986, Pub. L. 99-653, see section 309(b)(15) of Pub. L. 102-232, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 1988 Amendments note under section 1101 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-653 applicable to actions taken before, on, or after Nov. 14, 1986, see section 23(g) of Pub. L. 99-653, set out as a note under section 1481 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-116 effective Dec. 29, 1981, see section 21(a) of Pub. L. 97-116, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

RIGHT OF EXPATRIATION

Provisions preserving the right and disavowal of foreign allegiance, see note under section 1481 of this title.

**§§ 1484 to 1487. Repealed. Pub. L. 95-432, § 2, Oct. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 1046**

Section 1484, act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §352, 66 Stat. 269, related to loss of nationality by naturalized national by continuous residence for 3 years in the territory or foreign state of which the individual was a former national or in which his place of birth was situated or continuous residence for 5 years in any other foreign state or states.

Section 1485, acts June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §353, 66 Stat. 270; Aug. 4, 1959, Pub. L. 86-129, §1, 73 Stat. 274, provided exceptions for certain persons from loss of nationality pursuant to section 1484.

Section 1486, acts June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §354, 66 Stat. 271; Aug. 4, 1959, Pub. L. 86-129, §§2, 3, 73 Stat. 274; Sept. 26, 1961, Pub. L. 87-301, §20, 75 Stat. 656, provided exceptions for certain persons from loss of

nationality by continuous residence for five years in any foreign country of which the individual was not a national or in which his place of birth was situated.

Section 1487, act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §355, 66 Stat. 272, related to loss of American nationality through expatriation of parents.

**§ 1488. Nationality lost solely from performance of acts or fulfillment of conditions**

The loss of nationality under this part shall result solely from the performance by a national of the acts or fulfillment of the conditions specified in this part.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §356, 66 Stat. 272.)

**§ 1489. Application of treaties; exceptions**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be applied in contravention of the provisions of any treaty or convention to which the United States is a party and which has been ratified by the Senate before December 25, 1952: *Provided, however*, That no woman who was a national of the United States shall be deemed to have lost her nationality solely by reason of her marriage to an alien on or after September 22, 1922, or to an alien racially ineligible to citizenship on or after March 3, 1931, or, in the case of a woman who was a United States citizen at birth, through residence abroad following such marriage, notwithstanding the provisions of any existing treaty or convention.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 3, §357, 66 Stat. 272; Pub. L. 100-525, §9(ii), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2622.)

AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-525 substituted “before December 25, 1952” for “upon the effective date of this subchapter”.

PART IV—MISCELLANEOUS

**§ 1501. Certificate of diplomatic or consular officer of United States as to loss of American nationality**

Whenever a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States has reason to believe that a person while in a foreign state has lost his United States nationality under any provision of part III of this subchapter, or under any provision of chapter IV of the Nationality Act of 1940, as amended, he shall certify the facts upon which such belief is based to the Department of State, in writing, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of State. If the report of the diplomatic or consular officer is approved by the Secretary of State, a copy of the certificate shall be forwarded to the Attorney General, for his information, and the diplomatic or consular office in which the report was made shall be directed to forward a copy of the certificate to the person to whom it relates. Approval by the Secretary of State of a certificate under this section shall constitute a final administrative determination of loss of United States nationality under this chapter, subject to such procedures for administrative appeal as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation, and also shall constitute a denial of a right or privilege of United States nationality for purposes of section 1503 of this title.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 4, §358, 66 Stat. 272; Pub. L. 103-416, title I, §106, Oct. 25, 1994, 108 Stat. 4309.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Chapter IV of the Nationality Act of 1940, as amended, referred to in text, which was classified to sections 800 to 810 of this title, was repealed by section 403(a)(42) of act June 27, 1952.

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original, “this Act”, meaning act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, known as the Immigration and Nationality Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1101 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 100 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-416 inserted at end “Approval by the Secretary of State of a certificate under this section shall constitute a final administrative determination of loss of United States nationality under this chapter, subject to such procedures for administrative appeal as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation, and also shall constitute a denial of a right or privilege of United States nationality for purposes of section 1503 of this title.”

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**§ 1502. Certificate of nationality issued by Secretary of State for person not a naturalized citizen of United States for use in proceedings of a foreign state**

The Secretary of State is authorized to issue, in his discretion and in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by him, a certificate of nationality for any person not a naturalized citizen of the United States who presents satisfactory evidence that he is an American national and that such certificate is needed for use in judicial or administrative proceedings in a foreign state. Such certificate shall be solely for use in the case for which it was issued and shall be transmitted by the Secretary of State through appropriate official channels to the judicial or administrative officers of the foreign state in which it is to be used.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title III, ch. 4, §359, 66 Stat. 273.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 101 of this title.

**§ 1503. Denial of rights and privileges as national**  
**(a) Proceedings for declaration of United States nationality**

If any person who is within the United States claims a right or privilege as a national of the United States and is denied such right or privilege by any department or independent agency, or official thereof, upon the ground that he is not a national of the United States, such person