

(b) Use as defense

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if—

(1) any person, partnership, or corporation engages in any conduct or practice which allegedly constitutes a violation of any Federal law with respect to which the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System has rule-making authority; and

(2) such person, partnership, or corporation engaged in such conduct or practice in good faith reliance upon, and in conformity with, any rule, regulation, statement of interpretation, or statement of approval prescribed or issued by the Board of Governors under such Federal law;

then such good faith reliance shall constitute a defense in any administrative or judicial proceeding commenced against such person, partnership, or corporation by the Commission under this subchapter or in any administrative or judicial proceeding commenced against such person, partnership, or corporation by the Attorney General of the United States, upon request made by the Commission, under any provision of law.

(c) Applicability of subsection (b)

The provisions of subsection (b) shall apply regardless of whether any rule, regulation, statement of interpretation, or statement of approval prescribed or issued by the Board of Governors is amended, rescinded, or held to be invalid by judicial authority or any other authority after a person, partnership, or corporation has engaged in any conduct or practice in good faith reliance upon, and in conformity with, such rule, regulation, statement of interpretation, or statement of approval.

(d) Request for issuance of statement or interpretation concerning conduct or practice

If, in any case in which—

(1) the Board of Governors has rulemaking authority with respect to any Federal law; and

(2) the Commission is authorized to enforce the requirements of such Federal law;

any person, partnership, or corporation submits a request to the Board of Governors for the issuance of any statement of interpretation or statement of approval relating to any conduct or practice of such person, partnership, or corporation which may be subject to the requirements of such Federal law, then the Board of Governors shall dispose of such request as soon as practicable after the receipt of such.

(Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, §23, as added Pub. L. 96-252, §16, May 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 390.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective May 28, 1980, see section 23 of Pub. L. 96-252, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 45 of this title.

§ 57b-5. Agricultural cooperatives

(a) The Commission shall not have any authority to conduct any study, investigation, or prosecution of any agricultural cooperative for any conduct which, because of the provisions of sections 291 and 292 of title 7, is not a violation of any of the antitrust Acts or this subchapter.

(b) The Commission shall not have any authority to conduct any study or investigation of any agricultural marketing orders.

(Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, §24, as added Pub. L. 103-312, §2, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1691.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 24 of act Sept. 26, 1914, was renumbered section 25 and is classified to section 57c of this title.

§ 57c. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the functions, powers, and duties of the Commission not to exceed \$92,700,000 for fiscal year 1994; not to exceed \$99,000,000 for fiscal year 1995; not to exceed \$102,000,000 for fiscal year 1996; not to exceed \$107,000,000 for fiscal year 1997; and not to exceed \$111,000,000 for fiscal year 1998.

(Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, §25, formerly §20, as added Pub. L. 93-367, title II, §207, Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2203; amended Pub. L. 94-299, §1, May 29, 1976, 90 Stat. 588; renumbered §24 and amended Pub. L. 96-252, §§13, 17, May 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 380, 391; renumbered §25 and amended Pub. L. 103-312, §§2, 14, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1691, 1697; Pub. L. 104-216, §2, Oct. 1, 1996, 110 Stat. 3019.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 25 of act Sept. 26, 1914, was renumbered section 28 and is classified to section 58 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-216 struck out “and” before “not to exceed \$102,000,000” and inserted before period at end “; not to exceed \$107,000,000 for fiscal year 1997; and not to exceed \$111,000,000 for fiscal year 1998”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-312, §14, amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the functions, powers, and duties of the Federal Trade Commission not to exceed \$42,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975; not to exceed \$47,091,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976; not to exceed \$50,000,000 for the fiscal year ending in 1977; not to exceed \$70,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1980; not to exceed \$75,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1981; and not to exceed \$80,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1982.”

1980—Pub. L. 96-252, §17, substituted “1977; not to exceed \$70,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1980; not to exceed \$75,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1981; and not to exceed \$80,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1982” for “1977. For fiscal years ending after 1977, there may be appropriated to carry out such functions, powers, and duties, only such sums as the Congress may hereafter authorize by law”.

1976—Pub. L. 94-299 substituted “\$47,091,000” for “\$46,000,000”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-252 effective May 28, 1980, see section 23 of Pub. L. 96-252, set out as a note under section 45 of this title.

INTERVENTION BY COMMISSION IN CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS

Pub. L. 103-312, §11, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1696, provided that:

“(a) LIMITATION ON USE OF AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—The Federal Trade Commission shall not have any authority to use any funds which are authorized to be appro-

appropriated to carry out the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) for fiscal years 1994, 1995, and 1996 for the purpose of submitting statements to, appearing before, or intervening in the proceedings of, any Federal or State agency or State legislative body concerning proposed rules or legislation that the agency or legislative body is considering unless the Commission advises the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives regarding such action as soon as possible.

“(b) CONTENTS OF NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—The notice required in subsection (a) shall include the name of the agency or legislator involved, the date of such action, and a concise statement regarding the nature and purpose of such action.”

RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS TO CANCEL
REGISTRATION OF TRADEMARKS

Section 18 of Pub. L. 96-252 prohibited the Federal Trade Commission from using any funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subchapter for fiscal year 1980, 1981, or 1982 (or 1983 as extended by Pub. L. 97-377, title I §101(d), Dec. 21, 1982, 96 Stat. 1870), under this section, for the purpose of taking any action under 15 U.S.C. 1064 with respect to the cancellation of the registration of any mark on the ground that such mark has become the common descriptive name of an article or substance.

RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS RESPECTING STUDY, INVESTIGATION, OR PROSECUTION OF ANY AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE OR STUDY OR INVESTIGATION OF ANY AGRICULTURAL MARKETING ORDERS

Section 20 of Pub. L. 96-252 prohibited the Federal Trade Commission from using any funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subchapter for fiscal year 1980, 1981, or 1982 (or 1983 as extended by Pub. L. 97-377, title I §101(d), Dec. 21, 1982, 96 Stat. 1870), under this section, for the purpose of conducting any study, investigation, or prosecution of any agricultural cooperative for any conduct which, because of the provisions of the Capper-Volstead Act (7 U.S.C. 291 et seq.), was not a violation of any Federal antitrust Act or this subchapter or for the purpose of conducting any study or investigation of any agricultural marketing orders.

§ 57c-1. Staff exchanges

(a) In general

The Commission may—

(1) retain or employ officers or employees of foreign government agencies on a temporary basis as employees of the Commission pursuant to section 42 of this title or section 3101 or section 3109 of title 5; and

(2) detail officers or employees of the Commission to work on a temporary basis for appropriate foreign government agencies.

(b) Reciprocity and reimbursement

The staff arrangements described in subsection (a) need not be reciprocal. The Commission may accept payment or reimbursement, in cash or in kind, from a foreign government agency to which this section is applicable, or payment or reimbursement made on behalf of such agency, for expenses incurred by the Commission, its members, and employees in carrying out such arrangements.

(c) Standards of conduct

A person appointed under subsection (a)(1) shall be subject to the provisions of law relating to ethics, conflicts of interest, corruption, and any other criminal or civil statute or regulation governing the standards of conduct for Federal

employees that are applicable to the type of appointment.

(Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, §25A, as added Pub. L. 109-455, §9, Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3381.)

REPEAL OF SECTION

For repeal of section by section 13 of Pub. L. 109-455, see Effective Date of Repeal note below.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Section repealed effective Sept. 30, 2020, see section 13 of Pub. L. 109-455, as amended by section 1 of Pub. L. 112-203, set out as a Termination Date of 2006 Amendment note under section 44 of this title.

§ 57c-2. Reimbursement of expenses

The Commission may accept payment or reimbursement, in cash or in kind, from a domestic or foreign law enforcement agency, or payment or reimbursement made on behalf of such agency, for expenses incurred by the Commission, its members, or employees in carrying out any activity pursuant to a statute administered by the Commission without regard to any other provision of law. Any such payments or reimbursements shall be considered a reimbursement to the appropriated funds of the Commission.

(Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, §26, as added Pub. L. 109-455, §11(2), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3381.)

REPEAL OF SECTION

For repeal of section by section 13 of Pub. L. 109-455, see Effective Date of Repeal note below.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 26 of act Sept. 26, 1914, was renumbered section 28 and is classified to section 58 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Section repealed effective Sept. 30, 2020, see section 13 of Pub. L. 109-455, as amended by section 1 of Pub. L. 112-203, set out as a Termination Date of 2006 Amendment note under section 44 of this title.

§ 58. Short title

This subchapter may be cited as the “Federal Trade Commission Act”.

(Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, §28, formerly §18, as added Mar. 21, 1938, ch. 49, §4, 52 Stat. 114; renumbered §21, Pub. L. 93-637, title II, §202(a), Jan. 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2193; renumbered §25, Pub. L. 96-252, §13, May 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 380; renumbered §26, Pub. L. 103-312, §2, Aug. 26, 1994, 108 Stat. 1691; renumbered §28, Pub. L. 109-455, §11(1), Dec. 22, 2006, 120 Stat. 3381.)

AMENDMENT OF SECTION

For repeal of amendment renumbering this section by section 13 of Pub. L. 109-455, see Termination Date of 2006 Amendment note below.

TERMINATION DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 109-455 repealed effective Sept. 30, 2020, and provisions amended by Pub. L. 109-455 to be amended to read as if Pub. L. 109-455 had not been enacted, see section 13 of Pub. L. 109-455, as amended by section 1 of Pub. L. 112-203, set out as a note under section 44 of this title.

SHORT TITLE OF 2016 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114-274, §1, Dec. 14, 2016, 130 Stat. 1401, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 45c of this title