

section have been violated, the Secretary shall bring an action in any appropriate United States district court against such person. In any such action the United States district courts shall have jurisdiction, for cause shown, to restrain violation of subsection (a) and order all appropriate relief, including rehiring or reinstatement of the worker, with back pay, or damages. (Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §505, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2598.)

#### § 1856. Waiver of rights

Agreements by employees purporting to waive or to modify their rights under this chapter shall be void as contrary to public policy, except that a waiver or modification of rights in favor of the Secretary shall be valid for purposes of enforcement of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §506, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2598.)

### PART B—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

#### § 1861. Rules and regulations

The Secretary may issue such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out this chapter, consistent with the requirements of chapter 5 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §511, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2598.)

#### § 1862. Authority to obtain information

##### (a) Investigation and inspection authority concerning places, records, etc.

To carry out this chapter the Secretary, either pursuant to a complaint or otherwise, shall, as may be appropriate, investigate, and in connection therewith, enter and inspect such places (including housing and vehicles) and such records (and make transcriptions thereof), question such persons and gather such information to determine compliance with this chapter, or regulations prescribed under this chapter.

##### (b) Attendance and testimony of witnesses, and production of evidence; subpoena authority

The Secretary may issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of any evidence in connection with such investigations. The Secretary may administer oaths, examine witnesses, and receive evidence. For the purpose of any hearing or investigation provided for in this chapter, the authority contained in sections 49 and 50 of title 15, relating to the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, and documents, shall be available to the Secretary. The Secretary shall conduct investigations in a manner which protects the confidentiality of any complainant or other party who provides information to the Secretary in good faith.

##### (c) Prohibited activities

It shall be a violation of this chapter for any person to unlawfully resist, oppose, impede, intimidate, or interfere with any official of the Department of Labor assigned to perform an investigation, inspection, or law enforcement function pursuant to this chapter during the performance of such duties.

(Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §512, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2598.)

#### § 1863. Agreements with Federal and State agencies

##### (a) Scope of agreements

The Secretary may enter into agreements with Federal and State agencies (1) to use their facilities and services, (2) to delegate, subject to subsection (b), to Federal and State agencies such authority, other than rulemaking, as may be useful in carrying out this chapter, and (3) to allocate or transfer funds to, or otherwise pay or reimburse, such agencies for expenses incurred pursuant to agreements under clause (1) or (2) of this section.

##### (b) Delegation of authority pursuant to written State plan

Any delegation to a State agency pursuant to subsection (a)(2) shall be made only pursuant to a written State plan which—

(1) shall include a description of the functions to be performed, the methods of performing such functions, and the resources to be devoted to the performance of such functions; and

(2) provides assurances satisfactory to the Secretary that the State agency will comply with its description under paragraph (1) and that the State agency's performance of functions so delegated will be at least comparable to the performance of such functions by the Department of Labor.

(Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §513, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2599.)

### PART C—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

#### § 1871. State laws and regulations

This chapter is intended to supplement State law, and compliance with this chapter shall not excuse any person from compliance with appropriate State law and regulation.

(Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §521, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2599.)

#### § 1872. Transition provision

The Secretary may deny a certificate of registration to any farm labor contractor, as defined in this chapter, who has a judgment outstanding against him under the Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act of 1963 (7 U.S.C. 2041 et seq.), or is subject to a final order of the Secretary under that Act assessing a civil money penalty which has not been paid. Any findings under the Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act of 1963 may also be applicable to determinations of willful and knowing violations under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §522, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2599.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act of 1963, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 88-582, Sept. 7, 1964, 78 Stat. 920, as amended, which was classified generally to chapter 52 (§2041 et seq.) of Title 7, Agriculture, and was repealed by Pub. L. 97-470, title V, §523, Jan. 14, 1983, 96 Stat. 2600. See section 1801 et seq. of this title.

**CHAPTER 21—HELEN KELLER NATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTHS AND ADULTS WHO ARE DEAF-BLIND**

Sec.	
1901.	Congressional findings.
1902.	Continued operation of Center.
1903.	Audit; monitoring and evaluation.
1904.	Authorization of appropriations.
1905.	Definitions.
1906.	Construction; effect on agreements.
1907.	Helen Keller National Center Federal Endowment Fund.
1908.	Registry.

**§ 1901. Congressional findings**

The Congress finds that—

(1) deaf-blindness is among the most severe of all forms of disabilities, and there is a great and continuing need for services and training to help individuals who are deaf-blind attain the highest possible level of development;

(2) due to the rubella epidemic of the 1960's, the rapidly increasing number of older persons many of whom are experiencing significant losses of both vision and hearing, and recent advances in medical technology that have sustained the lives of many severely disabled individuals, including individuals who are deaf-blind, who might not otherwise have survived, the need for services for individuals who are deaf-blind is even more pressing now than in the past;

(3) helping individuals who are deaf-blind to become self-sufficient, independent, and employable by providing the services and training necessary to accomplish that end will benefit the Nation, both economically and socially;

(4) the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults who are Deaf-Blind is a vital national resource for meeting the needs of individuals who are deaf-blind and no State currently has the facilities or personnel to meet such needs;

(5) the Federal Government has made a substantial investment in capital, equipment, and operating funds for such Center since it was established; and

(6) it is in the national interest to continue to provide support for the Center, and it is a proper function of the Federal Government to be the primary source of such support.

(Pub. L. 98-221, title II, §202, Feb. 22, 1984, 98 Stat. 32; Pub. L. 102-569, title IX, §§901, 908(a), (c)(1), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4482, 4485, 4486.)

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

Provisions for the establishment, operation, and funding of the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults, similar to those comprising this chapter, were contained in section 777c of this title prior to the repeal of that section and the enactment of this chapter by Pub. L. 98-221. Prior thereto provisions similar to those comprising this chapter and authorizing appropriations for fiscal years ending June 30, 1974, June 30, 1975, June 30, 1976, Sept. 30, 1977, and Sept. 30, 1978, for the establishment of the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults were contained in former section 305 of Pub. L. 93-112, title III, Sept. 26, 1973, 87 Stat. 383, as amended by Pub. L. 93-516, title I, §107, Dec. 7, 1974, 88 Stat. 1619; Pub. L. 93-651, title I, §107, Nov. 21, 1974, 89 Stat. 2-4; Pub. L. 94-230,

§§7, 11(b)(10), Mar. 15, 1976, 90 Stat. 212, 213; Pub. L. 94-288, §§1, 2, May 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 520, which was classified to section 775 of this title. Section 109(1) of Pub. L. 95-602 redesignated former section 305 as section 313 of Pub. L. 93-112. Section 313 of Pub. L. 93-112, as amended generally by section 116(2) of Pub. L. 95-602, was classified to section 777c of this title.

Prior similar provisions were also contained in former section 42a of this title.

**AMENDMENTS**

1992—Par. (1). Pub. L. 102-569, §908(a), substituted “individuals who are deaf-blind” for “deaf-blind individuals”.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 102-569, §§901(1), 908(a), inserted “, the rapidly increasing number of older persons many of whom are experiencing significant losses of both vision and hearing;” after “1960’s” and substituted “individuals who are deaf-blind” for “deaf-blind individuals” in two places.

Par. (3). Pub. L. 102-569, §908(a), substituted “individuals who are deaf-blind” for “deaf-blind individuals”.

Par. (4). Pub. L. 102-569, §908(a), (c)(1), substituted “Youths and Adults who are Deaf-Blind” for “Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults” and “individuals who are deaf-blind” for “deaf-blind individuals”.

Par. (5). Pub. L. 102-569, §901(2), substituted “made a substantial investment” for “invested approximately \$10,000,000”.

**SHORT TITLE**

Pub. L. 98-221, title II, §201, Feb. 22, 1984, 98 Stat. 32, provided that: “This title [enacting this chapter, amending section 777 of this title, and repealing section 777c of this title] may be cited as the ‘Helen Keller National Center Act’.”

**§ 1902. Continued operation of Center**

**(a) Administration by Secretary of Education**

The Secretary of Education shall continue to administer and support the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults who are Deaf-Blind in the same manner as such Center was administered prior to February 22, 1984, to the extent such manner of administration is not inconsistent with any purpose described in subsection (b) or any other requirement of this chapter.

**(b) Purposes of Center**

The purposes of the Center are to—

(1) provide specialized intensive services, or any other services, at the Center or anywhere else in the United States, which are necessary to encourage the maximum personal development of any individual who is deaf-blind;

(2) train family members of individuals who are deaf-blind at the Center or anywhere else in the United States, in order to assist family members in providing and obtaining appropriate services for the individual who is deaf-blind;

(3) train professionals and allied personnel at the Center or anywhere else in the United States to provide services to individuals who are deaf-blind; and

(4) conduct applied research, development programs, and demonstrations with respect to communication techniques, teaching methods, aids and devices, and delivery of services.

(Pub. L. 98-221, title II, §203, Feb. 22, 1984, 98 Stat. 33; Pub. L. 102-569, title IX, §§902, 908, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4482, 4485.)

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this title”, meaning title II of Pub. L. 98-221,