

(2) For the purposes of this section, the term “eligible employee” means any employee of the agency who—

(A) is scheduled to be separated from service due to a reduction in force under—

- (i) regulations prescribed under section 3502 of title 5; or
- (ii) procedures established under section 3595 of title 5; or

(B) is separated from service due to such a reduction in force, but does not include—

- (i) an employee separated from service for cause on charges of misconduct or delinquency; or
- (ii) an employee who, at the time of separation, meets the age and service requirements for an immediate annuity under subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5.

(b) Priority placement and retraining program

Not later than 30 days after September 30, 1996, the United States Department of Energy shall establish an agency-wide priority placement and retraining program for eligible employees.

(c) Filling vacancy from outside agency

The priority placement program established under subsection (b) of this section shall include provisions under which a vacant position shall not be filled by the appointment or transfer of any individual from outside of the agency if—

- (1) there is then available any eligible employee who applies for the position within 30 days of the agency issuing a job announcement and is qualified (or can be trained or retrained to become qualified within 90 days of assuming the position) for the position; and
- (2) the position is within the same commuting area as the eligible employee’s last-held position or residence.

(d) Job placement and counseling services

The head of the agency may establish a program to provide job placement and counseling services to eligible employees. A program established under subsection (d) of this section may include, but is not limited to, such services as—

- (1) career and personal counseling;
- (2) training and job search skills; and
- (3) job placement assistance, including assistance provided through cooperative arrangements with State and local employment services offices.

(Pub. L. 104–206, title III, §301, Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 2999.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 1997, and not as part of the Department of Energy Organization Act which comprises this chapter.

§ 7238. Temporary appointments for scientific and technical experts in Department of Energy research and development programs

(a) The Secretary, utilizing authority under other applicable law and the authority of this section, may appoint for a limited term, or on a temporary basis, scientists, engineers, and other

technical and professional personnel on leave of absence from academic, industrial, or research institutions to work for the Department.

(b) The Department may pay, to the extent authorized for certain other Federal employees by section 5723 of title 5, travel expenses for any individual appointed for a limited term or on a temporary basis and transportation expenses of his or her immediate family and his or her household goods and personal effects from that individual’s residence at the time of selection or assignment to his or her duty station. The Department may pay such travel expenses to the same extent for such an individual’s return to the former place of residence from his or her duty station, upon separation from the Federal service following an agreed period of service. The Department may also pay a per diem allowance at a rate not to exceed the daily amounts prescribed under section 5702 of title 5 to such an individual, in lieu of transportation expenses of the immediate family and household goods and personal effects, for the period of his or her employment with the Department. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the employer’s contribution to any retirement, life insurance, or health benefit plan for an individual appointed for a term of one year or less, which could be extended for no more than one additional year, may be made or reimbursed from appropriations available to the Department.

(Pub. L. 104–271, title III, §301, Oct. 9, 1996, 110 Stat. 3307.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Hydrogen Future Act of 1996, and not as part of the Department of Energy Organization Act which comprises this chapter.

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 104–271, §2, Oct. 9, 1996, 110 Stat. 3304, provided that: “For purposes of titles II and III [enacting this section and provisions set out as a note under section 12403 of this title]—

- “(1) the term ‘Department’ means the Department of Energy; and
- “(2) the term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Energy.”

§ 7239. Transferred

CODIFICATION

Section, Pub. L. 106–65, div. C, title XXXI, §3164, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 946, which related to the whistleblower protection program, was renumbered section 4602 of Pub. L. 107–314, the Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003, by Pub. L. 108–136, div. C, title XXXI, §3141(i)(3)(A)–(C), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1776, and is classified to section 2702 of Title 50, War and National Defense.

PART C—GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

§ 7251. General authority

To the extent necessary or appropriate to perform any function transferred by this chapter, the Secretary or any officer or employee of the Department may exercise, in carrying out the function so transferred, any authority or part thereof available by law, including appropriation Acts, to the official or agency from which such function was transferred.

(Pub. L. 95–91, title VI, §641, Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 598.)