

**§ 3510. Cooperation of agencies in making information available**

(a) The Director may direct an agency to make available to another agency, or an agency may make available to another agency, information obtained by a collection of information if the disclosure is not inconsistent with applicable law.

(b)(1) If information obtained by an agency is released by that agency to another agency, all the provisions of law (including penalties) that relate to the unlawful disclosure of information apply to the officers and employees of the agency to which information is released to the same extent and in the same manner as the provisions apply to the officers and employees of the agency which originally obtained the information.

(2) The officers and employees of the agency to which the information is released, in addition, shall be subject to the same provisions of law, including penalties, relating to the unlawful disclosure of information as if the information had been collected directly by that agency.

(Added Pub. L. 104-13, § 2, May 22, 1995, 109 Stat. 180.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3510, added Pub. L. 96-511, § 2(a), Dec. 11, 1980, 94 Stat. 2822, related to cooperation of agencies in making information available prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 104-13.

Another prior section 3510, Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1305, authorized promulgation of rules and regulations, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 96-511. See section 3516 of this title.

**§ 3511. Establishment and operation of Government Information Locator Service**

(a) In order to assist agencies and the public in locating information and to promote information sharing and equitable access by the public, the Director shall—

(1) cause to be established and maintained a distributed agency-based electronic Government Information Locator Service (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Service”), which shall identify the major information systems, holdings, and dissemination products of each agency;

(2) require each agency to establish and maintain an agency information locator service as a component of, and to support the establishment and operation of the Service;

(3) in cooperation with the Archivist of the United States, the Administrator of General Services, the Director of the Government Publishing Office, and the Librarian of Congress, establish an interagency committee to advise the Secretary of Commerce on the development of technical standards for the Service to ensure compatibility, promote information sharing, and uniform access by the public;

(4) consider public access and other user needs in the establishment and operation of the Service;

(5) ensure the security and integrity of the Service, including measures to ensure that only information which is intended to be disclosed to the public is disclosed through the Service; and

(6) periodically review the development and effectiveness of the Service and make recom-

mendations for improvement, including other mechanisms for improving public access to Federal agency public information.

(b) This section shall not apply to operational files as defined by the Central Intelligence Agency Information Act (50 U.S.C. 431 et seq.).<sup>1</sup>

(Added Pub. L. 104-13, § 2, May 22, 1995, 109 Stat. 180; amended Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, § 1301(c)(1), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Central Intelligence Agency Information Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is Pub. L. 98-477, Oct. 15, 1984, 98 Stat. 2209, which was formerly classified principally to subchapter V (§ 431 et seq.) of chapter 15 of Title 50, War and National Defense, prior to editorial reclassification in Title 50, and is now classified principally to subchapter V (§ 3141 et seq.) of chapter 44 of Title 50. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3511, added Pub. L. 96-511, § 2(a), Dec. 11, 1980, 94 Stat. 2822; amended Pub. L. 99-500, § 101(m) [title VIII, § 818], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-308, 1783-339, and Pub. L. 99-591, § 101(m) [title VIII, § 818], Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341-308, 3341-339, related to establishment and operation of a Federal Information Locator System prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 104-13.

Another prior section 3511, Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1305, provided for penalty for failure to furnish information, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 96-511.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 113-235 substituted “Director of the Government Publishing Office” for “Public Printer”.

**§ 3512. Public protection**

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that is subject to this subchapter if—

(1) the collection of information does not display a valid control number assigned by the Director in accordance with this subchapter; or

(2) the agency fails to inform the person who is to respond to the collection of information that such person is not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a valid control number.

(b) The protection provided by this section may be raised in the form of a complete defense, bar, or otherwise at any time during the agency administrative process or judicial action applicable thereto.

(Added Pub. L. 104-13, § 2, May 22, 1995, 109 Stat. 181; amended Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [[div. A], title X, § 1064(b)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-275.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3512, added Pub. L. 96-511, § 2(a), Dec. 11, 1980, 94 Stat. 2822, related to protection of persons failing to maintain or provide information if information collection request did not display current control number prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 104-13.

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.