

§ 32305. Information and assistance from other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities

(a) AUTHORITY TO REQUEST.—The Secretary of Transportation may request information necessary to carry out this chapter from a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government. The head of the department, agency, or instrumentality shall provide the information.

(b) DETAILING PERSONNEL.—The head of a department, agency, or instrumentality may detail, on a reimbursable basis, personnel to assist the Secretary in carrying out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1040.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 32305, 15:1943, Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §203, 86 Stat. 957.

In this section, the word "independent" is omitted as surplus.

In subsection (a), the words "he deems" and "his functions under" are omitted as surplus. The words "head of the" are added for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. The words "cooperate with the Secretary and" and "to the Department of Transportation upon request made by the Secretary" are omitted as surplus.

§ 32306. Personnel

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary of Transportation may—

- (1) appoint and fix the pay of employees without regard to the provisions of title 5 governing appointment in the competitive service and chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5; and
- (2) make contracts with persons for research and preparation of reports.

(b) STATUS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS.—A member of an advisory committee appointed under section 325 of this title to carry out this chapter is a special United States Government employee under chapter 11 of title 18.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1040.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 32306(a), 15:1942 (1st, 2d sentences), Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §202, 86 Stat. 956. Row 2: 32306(b), 15:1942 (last sentence).

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words "his functions under" are omitted as surplus. In clause (1), the words "as he deems necessary" are omitted as surplus. The words "chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5" are substituted for "the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates" to eliminate unnecessary words. The text of 15:1942 (1st sentence cl. (2)) is omitted as surplus because of 49:323(b). The text of 15:1942 (1st sentence cl. (4), 2d sentence) is omitted as surplus because of 49:325.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The provisions of title 5 governing appointment in the competitive service, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), are

classified generally to section 3301 et seq. of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 32307. Investigative powers

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary of Transportation may—

- (1) inspect and copy records of any person at reasonable times;
- (2) order a person to file written reports or answers to specific questions, including reports or answers under oath; and
- (3) conduct hearings, administer oaths, take testimony, and require (by subpoena or otherwise) the appearance and testimony of witnesses and the production of records the Secretary considers advisable.

(b) WITNESS FEES AND MILEAGE.—A witness summoned under subsection (a) of this section is entitled to the same fee and mileage the witness would have been paid in a court of the United States.

(c) CIVIL ACTIONS TO ENFORCE.—A civil action to enforce a subpoena or order of the Secretary under subsection (a) of this section may be brought in the United States district court for the judicial district in which the proceeding by the Secretary is conducted. The court may punish a failure to obey an order of the court to comply with the subpoena or order of the Secretary as a contempt of court.

(d) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.—Information obtained by the Secretary under this section related to a confidential matter referred to in section 1905 of title 18 may be disclosed only to another officer or employee of the United States Government for use in carrying out this chapter. This subsection does not authorize information to be withheld from a committee of Congress authorized to have the information.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1040.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 32307(a), 15:1944(a)-(c), Oct. 20, 1972, Pub. L. 92-513, §204, 86 Stat. 957. Row 2: 32307(b), 15:1944(e). Row 3: 32307(c), 15:1944(d). Row 4: 32307(d), 15:1944(f).

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words "In carrying out this chapter" are substituted for "For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subchapter", "In order to carry out the provisions of this subchapter", and "relating to any function of the Secretary under this subchapter" for consistency. The words "or on the authorization of the Secretary, any officer or employee of the Department of Transportation" and "or his duly authorized agent" are omitted as surplus because of 49:322(b). In clause (1), the words "inspect and copy" are substituted for "have access to, and for the purposes of examination the right to copy", and the word "records" is substituted for "documentary evidence" and "materials and information", for consistency and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words "relevant to the study authorized by this subchapter" are omitted as surplus. In clause (2), the word "order" is substituted for "require, by general or special orders" to eliminate unnecessary words. The words "in such form as the Secretary may prescribe" and "shall be filed with the Secretary within such reasonable period as the Secretary may prescribe" are omitted.