

the armed forces, the Secretary may, as the Secretary determines appropriate, limit—

(A) eligibility to family members who, by reason of affinity, degree of consanguinity, or otherwise, are sufficiently close in relationship to the member of the armed forces to justify the travel assistance;

(B) the number of family members who may travel; and

(C) the number of trips that family members may take.

(3) The Secretary of Defense may, in an exceptional case, authorize a person not described in subsection (d)(2) to use a travel benefit accepted under this subsection to visit a member of the armed forces described in subsection (d)(1) if that person has a notably close relationship with the member. The travel benefit may be used by such person only in accordance with such conditions and restrictions as the Secretary determines appropriate and the rules established by the business entity referred to in subsection (b) that is the source of the travel benefit.

(f) SERVICES OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The Secretary of Defense may enter into an agreement with a nonprofit organization to use the services of the organization—

(1) to promote the donation of travel benefits under this section, except that amounts appropriated to the Department of Defense may not be expended for this purpose; and

(2) to assist in administering the collection, distribution, and use of travel benefits under this section.

(g) FAMILY MEMBER DEFINED.—In this section, the term “family member” has the meaning given that term in section 481h(b)(1) of title 37.

(Added Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title V, §585(a)(1), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1930; amended Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title X, §1071(a)(20), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2399; Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §576(a)-(d)(1), title VI, §631(f)(4)(A), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1428, 1429, 1465; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title X, §1076(a)(9), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1948.)

#### CODIFICATION

Another section 2613 was renumbered section 2614 of this title.

#### AMENDMENTS

2013—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 112-239, §1076(a)(9), made technical amendment to directory language of Pub. L. 112-81, §631(f)(4)(A). See 2011 Amendment note below.

2011—Pub. L. 112-81, §576(d)(1), substituted “Acceptance of frequent traveler miles, credits, points, and tickets; use to facilitate rest and recuperation travel of deployed members and their families” for “Acceptance of frequent traveler miles, credits, and tickets; use to facilitate rest and recuperation travel of deployed members and their families” in section catchline.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 112-81, §576(a), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) defined travel benefit.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 112-81, §576(b), substituted “the business entity referred to in subsection (b)” for “the air or surface carrier” and substituted “the business entity” for “the surface carrier” and for “the carrier”.

Subsec. (e)(3). Pub. L. 112-81, §576(c), substituted “the business entity referred to in subsection (b)” for “the air carrier or surface carrier”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 112-81, §631(f)(4)(A), as amended by Pub. L. 112-239, §1076(a)(9), substituted “481h(b)(1)” for “411h(b)(1)”.

2006—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 109-364 substituted “In this” for “In the”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2013 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title X, §1076(a), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1947, provided that the amendment made by section 1076(a)(9) is effective Dec. 31, 2011, and as if included in Pub. L. 112-81 as enacted.

### §2614. Emergency communications equipment: acceptance from local public safety agencies for temporary use related to disasters

(a) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT EQUIPMENT.—(1) Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary concerned—

(1) may accept communications equipment for use in coordinating joint response and recovery operations with public safety agencies in the event of a disaster; and

(2) may accept services related to the operation and maintenance of such equipment.

(b) REGULATIONS.—The authority under subsection (a) shall be exercised under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—(1) Equipment may be accepted under subsection (a)(1) only to the extent that communications equipment under the control of the Secretary concerned at the potential disaster response site is inadequate to meet military requirements for communicating with public safety agencies during the period of response to the disaster.

(2) Services may be accepted under subsection (a)(2) related to the operation and maintenance of communications equipment only to the extent that the necessary capabilities are not available to the military commander having custody of the equipment.

(d) LIABILITY.—A person providing services accepted under this section may not be considered, by reason of the provision of such services, to be an officer, employee, or agent of the United States for any purpose.

(Added Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title X, §1051(a), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2053, §2613; renumbered §2614 and amended Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title X, §1071(a)(19)(A), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2399.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109-364 renumbered section 2613 of this title as this section and redesignated the second subsec. (c) as (d).

### §2615. Military museums and military education programs: cooperative agreement authority

(a) USE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary concerned may enter into a cooperative agreement with a nonprofit entity for purposes related to—

(1) a military museum program; or

(2) the support of a military educational institution program.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subsection (a), an authorized cooperative agreement is described in section 6305 of title 31, except that the use of a cooperative agreement by the Secretary concerned is limited to nonprofit entities.

(Added Pub. L. 112-239, div. B, title XXVIII, §2852(b)(1), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2161.)

## CHAPTER 157—TRANSPORTATION

Sec.

2631.

Supplies: preference to United States vessels.