

spirits, wines, or beer prior to commencement of suit thereon, or the authority of the Secretary to compromise any claim under the customs laws in respect to such distilled spirits, wines, or beer.

**(b) Distraint or judicial process**

Except as provided in section 5243, all distilled spirits sold by order of court, or under process of distraint, shall be sold subject to tax; and the purchaser shall immediately, and before he takes possession of said spirits, pay the tax thereon, pursuant to the applicable provisions of this chapter and in accordance with regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary.

**(c) Release of seized vessels or vehicles by courts**

Notwithstanding any provisions of law relating to the return on bond of any vessel or vehicle seized for the violation of any law of the United States, the court having jurisdiction of the subject matter may, in its discretion and upon good cause shown by the United States, refuse to order such return of any such vessel or vehicle to the claimant thereof. As used in this subsection, the word “vessel” includes every description of watercraft used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation in water or in water and air; and the word “vehicle” includes every animal and description of carriage or other contrivance used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on land or through the air.

(Added Pub. L. 85-859, title II, §201, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1412; amended Pub. L. 94-455, title XIX, §1906(b)(13)(A), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1834.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 5688, act Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 701, consisted of provisions similar to those comprising this section, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 85-859.

AMENDMENTS

1976—Subsecs. (a)(5), (b). Pub. L. 94-455 struck out “or his delegate” after “Secretary” wherever appearing.

**[§ 5689. Repealed. Pub. L. 94-455, title XIX, § 1905(b)(2)(E)(i), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1822]**

Section, added Pub. L. 85-859, title II, §201, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1413, provided for penalty and forfeiture for tampering with a stamp machine.

A prior section 5689, act Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 702, related to penalty and forfeiture for tampering with a stamp machine, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 85-859.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective on first day of first month which begins more than 90 days after Oct. 4, 1976, see section 1905(d) of Pub. L. 94-455, set out as an Effective Date of 1976 Amendment note under section 5005 of this title.

**§ 5690. Definition of the term “person”**

The term “person”, as used in this subchapter, includes an officer or employee of a corporation or a member or employee of a partnership, who as such officer, employee, or member is under a duty to perform the act in respect of which the violation occurs.

(Added Pub. L. 85-859, title II, §201, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1413.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 5690, act Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 702, consisted of provisions similar to those comprising this section, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 85-859.

[PART V—REPEALED]

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior part V consisted of sections 5691 to 5693, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 85-859, title II, §201, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1313.

**[§ 5691. Repealed. Pub. L. 109-59, title XI, § 11125(b)(19)(A), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1956]**

Section, added Pub. L. 85-859, title II, §201, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1413; amended Pub. L. 96-39, title VIII, §807(a)(60), July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 290; Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title IV, §451(b)(3), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 819; Pub. L. 100-203, title X, §10512(a)(1)(B)(i), (ii), Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330-447, 1330-448, related to penalties for nonpayment of special taxes.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 5691, act Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 702, related to penalties for willful nonpayment of special taxes and forfeitures for nonpayment of special taxes relating to liquors, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 85-859.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective July 1, 2008, but inapplicable to taxes imposed for periods before such date, see section 11125(c) of Pub. L. 109-59, set out as an Effective Date of 2005 Amendment note under section 5002 of this title.

**[§ 5692. Repealed. Pub. L. 90-618, title II, § 206(a), Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1235]**

Section, added Pub. L. 85-859, title II, §201, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1413, set forth a cross reference to section 7273(a), relating to penalties for failure to post special tax stamps.

A prior section 5692, act Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 703, related to penalty relating to records of retail liquor dealers, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 85-859, title II, §201, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1313.

A prior section 5693, act Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 703, consisted of provisions similar to those comprising section 5692, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 85-859.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Oct. 22, 1968, see section 207 of Pub. L. 90-618, set out as an Effective Date note under section 5801 of this title.

**CHAPTER 52—TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND CIGARETTE PAPERS AND TUBES**

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<sup>1</sup> Section numbers editorially supplied.