

(Pub. L. 107-217, Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1086.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
527 .....	40:483(h).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §202(h), 63 Stat. 385.

**§ 528. Utilization of excess furniture**

A department or agency of the Federal Government may not use amounts provided by law to purchase furniture if the Administrator of General Services determines that requirements can reasonably be met by transferring excess furniture, including rehabilitated furniture, from other departments or agencies pursuant to this subtitle.

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<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
528 .....	40:483b.	Aug. 7, 1953, ch. 340, §1316, 67 Stat. 439.

The words “Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law” are omitted as unnecessary. The words “may not use funds provided by law to purchase furniture” are substituted for “no funds shall be available in this or any other Act for the purchase of furniture” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

**§ 529. Annual executive agency reports on excess personal property**

(a) IN GENERAL.—During the calendar quarter following the close of each fiscal year, each executive agency shall submit to the Administrator of General Services a report on personal property—

- (1) obtained as—
  - (A) excess property; or
  - (B) personal property determined to be no longer required for the purpose of the appropriation used to make the purchase; and
- (2) furnished within the United States to a recipient other than a federal agency.

(b) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—The report must set out the categories of equipment and show—

- (1) the acquisition cost of the property;
- (2) the recipient of the property; and
- (3) other information the Administrator may require.

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<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
529 .....	40:483(e).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §202(e), as added Pub. L. 94-519, §3, Oct. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 2454.

In subsection (a)(2), the words “in any manner whatsoever” are omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (b), the words “set out the categories of equipment” are substituted for “showing . . . categories of equipment” to clarify the required form and content of the report. The words “The Administrator shall submit a report to the Senate (or to the Secretary of the Senate if the Senate is not in session) and to the House of Representatives (or to the Clerk of the House

if the House is not in session) summarizing and analyzing the reports of the executive agencies” are omitted pursuant to section 3003 of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note). See, also, page 173 of House Document No. 103-7.

SUBCHAPTER III—DISPOSING OF PROPERTY

**§ 541. Supervision and direction**

Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, the Administrator of General Services shall supervise and direct the disposition of surplus property in accordance with this subtitle.

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HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
541 .....	40:484(a).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(a), 63 Stat. 385.

The words “shall supervise and direct the disposition of surplus property in accordance with this subtitle” are substituted for “shall have supervision and direction over the disposition of surplus property. Such property shall be disposed of to such extent, at such time, in such areas, by such agencies, at such terms and conditions, and in such manner, as may be prescribed in or pursuant to this Act” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

TRANSFERRED PROPERTIES; REQUESTS PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 30, 1983

Pub. L. 98-181, title I [title I, §126(a)(2), (3)], Nov. 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 1175, provided that:

“(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) [repealing former 40 U.S.C. 484b], the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of Agriculture may dispose of Federal surplus real property pursuant to the terms of section 414 of such Act [former 40 U.S.C. 484b] if, prior to the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 30, 1983], either Secretary had requested the Administrator of General Services to transfer such property for such disposition.

“(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), section 414(b) [former 40 U.S.C. 484b(b)] of such Act shall continue to apply, where applicable, to all property transferred by either Secretary pursuant to section 414 of such Act, including properties transferred pursuant to paragraph (2).”

**§ 542. Care and handling**

The disposal of surplus property, and the care and handling of the property pending disposition, may be performed by the General Services Administration or, when the Administrator of General Services decides, by the executive agency in possession of the property or by any other executive agency that agrees.

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<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
542 .....	40:484(b).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(b), 63 Stat. 385.

**§ 543. Method of disposition**

An executive agency designated or authorized by the Administrator of General Services to dispose of surplus property may do so by sale, exchange, lease, permit, or transfer, for cash, cred-

it, or other property, with or without warranty, on terms and conditions that the Administrator considers proper. The agency may execute documents to transfer title or other interest in the property and may take other action it considers necessary or proper to dispose of the property under this chapter.

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<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
543 .....	40:484(c).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(c), 63 Stat. 385.

**§ 544. Validity of transfer instruments**

A deed, bill of sale, lease, or other instrument executed by or on behalf of an executive agency purporting to transfer title or other interest in surplus property under this chapter is conclusive evidence of compliance with the provisions of this chapter concerning title or other interest of a bona fide grantee or transferee for value and without notice of lack of compliance.

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HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
544 .....	40:484(d).	June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title II, §203(d), 63 Stat. 385.

**§ 545. Procedure for disposal**

(a) PUBLIC ADVERTISING FOR BIDS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Administrator of General Services may make or authorize a disposal or a contract for disposal of surplus property only after public advertising for bids, under regulations the Administrator prescribes.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—This subsection does not apply to disposal or a contract for disposal of surplus property—

- (i) under subsection (b) or (d); or
- (ii) by abandonment, destruction, or donation or through a contract broker.

(2) TIME, METHOD, AND TERMS.—The time, method, and terms and conditions of advertisement must permit full and free competition consistent with the value and nature of the property involved.

(3) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.—Bids must be publicly disclosed at the time and place stated in the advertisement.

(4) AWARDS.—An award shall be made with reasonable promptness by notice to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to the invitation for bids, is most advantageous to the Federal Government, price and other factors considered. However, all bids may be rejected if it is in the public interest to do so.

(b) NEGOTIATED DISPOSAL.—Under regulations the Administrator prescribes, disposals and contracts for disposal may be negotiated without regard to subsection (a), but subject to obtaining competition that is feasible under the circumstances, if—

(1) necessary in the public interest—

(A) during the period of a national emergency declared by the President or Congress, with respect to a particular lot of personal property; or

(B) for a period not exceeding three months, with respect to a specifically described category of personal property as determined by the Administrator;

(2) the public health, safety, or national security will be promoted by a particular disposal of personal property;

(3) public exigency will not allow delay incident to advertising certain personal property;

(4) the nature and quantity of personal property involved are such that disposal under subsection (a) would impact an industry to an extent that would adversely affect the national economy, and the estimated fair market value of the property and other satisfactory terms of disposal can be obtained by negotiation;

(5) the estimated fair market value of the property involved does not exceed \$15,000;

(6) after advertising under subsection (a), the bid prices for the property, or part of the property, are not reasonable or have not been independently arrived at in open competition;

(7) with respect to real property, the character or condition of the property or unusual circumstances make it impractical to advertise publicly for competitive bids and the fair market value of the property and other satisfactory terms of disposal can be obtained by negotiation;

(8) the disposal will be to a State, territory, or possession of the United States, or to a political subdivision of, or a tax-supported agency in, a State, territory, or possession, and the estimated fair market value of the property and other satisfactory terms of disposal are obtained by negotiation; or

(9) otherwise authorized by law.

(c) DISPOSAL THROUGH CONTRACT BROKERS.—Disposals and contracts for disposal of surplus real and related personal property through contract realty brokers employed by the Administrator shall be made in the manner followed in similar commercial transactions under regulations the Administrator prescribes. The regulations must require that brokers give wide public notice of the availability of the property for disposal.

(d) NEGOTIATED SALE AT FIXED PRICE.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION.—The Administrator may make a negotiated sale of personal property at a fixed price, either directly or through the use of a disposal contractor, without regard to subsection (a). However, the sale must be publicized to an extent consistent with the value and nature of the property involved and the price established must reflect the estimated fair market value of the property. Sales under this subsection are limited to categories of personal property for which the Administrator determines that disposal under this subsection best serves the interests of the Government.

(2) FIRST OFFER.—Under regulations and restrictions the Administrator prescribes, an opportunity to purchase property at a fixed price under this subsection may be offered first to