

2002—Pub. L. 107-217 substituted “section 121 of title 40” for “section 205 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 486)”.

1980—Pub. L. 96-513 substituted “section 205 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 486)” for “section 486 of title 40”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-513 effective Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701(b)(3) of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

§ 7683. Excess non-automatic service rifles: loan or donation for funeral and other ceremonial purposes

(a) **AUTHORITY TO LEND OR DONATE.**—(1) The Secretary of the Army, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, may conditionally lend or donate excess M-1 rifles (not more than 15), slings, and cartridge belts to any eligible organization for use by that organization for funeral ceremonies of a member or former member of the armed forces, and for other ceremonial purposes.

(2) If the rifles to be loaned or donated under paragraph (1) are to be used by the eligible organization for funeral ceremonies of a member or former member of the armed forces, the Secretary may issue and deliver the rifles, together with the necessary accoutrements and blank ammunition, without charge.

(3)(A) In order to meet the needs of an eligible organization with respect to performing funeral and other ceremonies, if the Secretary determines appropriate, the Secretary may—

- (i) loan or donate excess non-automatic service rifles to an eligible organization; or
- (ii) authorize an eligible organization to retain non-automatic service rifles other than M-1 rifles.

(B) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to supersede any Federal law or regulation governing the use or ownership of firearms.

(b) **RELIEF FROM LIABILITY.**—The Secretary may relieve an eligible organization to which materials are lent or donated under subsection (a), and the surety on its bond, from liability for loss or destruction of the material lent or donated, if there is conclusive evidence that the loss or destruction did not result from negligence.

(c) **CONDITIONS ON LOAN OR DONATION.**—In lending or donating rifles under subsection (a), the Secretary shall impose such conditions on the use of the rifles as may be necessary to ensure security, safety, and accountability. The Secretary may impose such other conditions as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(d) **ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “eligible organization” means—

- (1) a unit or other organization of honor guards recognized by the Secretary of the Army as honor guards for a national cemetery;
- (2) a law enforcement agency; or

(3) a local unit of any organization that, as determined by the Secretary of the Army, is a nationally recognized veterans’ organization.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 262, § 4683; Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title XVI, § 1621(a)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1602; Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title III, § 381(a)-(d)(1), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 582; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title X, § 1051(a), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1935; renumbered § 7683, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 808(d), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1839.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
4683(a)	50:62.	Feb. 10, 1920, ch. 64; re-stated June 5, 1920, ch. 240 (par. under “Rifles and Accessories for Organizations of War Veterans”); restated May 26, 1952, ch. 364, 66 Stat. 94. Dec. 15, 1926, ch. 10, 44 Stat. 922.
4683(b)	50:62b.	

In subsection (a), the words “rules, limitations” and “in suitable amounts” are omitted as surplusage. The words “(not more than 10)” are substituted for 50:62 (proviso). The words “any local unit” are substituted for the words “posts or camps”, before the words “of national”. The words “that unit” are substituted for the word “them”. The words “those units” are substituted for the words “such posts and camps”. The words “a member or former member of the armed forces” are substituted for the words “soldiers, sailors, and marines”. Clause (2) is substituted for 50:62 (words between semicolon and colon).

In subsection (b), the words “a unit to which materials are lent under subsection (a)” are substituted for the description of the posts or camps covered. The words “the material lent” are substituted for the words “obsolete or condemned Army rifles, slings, and cartridge belts loaned by the Secretary of the Army under authority of section 62 of this title”.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 4683 of this title as this section.

2013—Pub. L. 112-239, § 1051(a)(2), substituted “Excess non-automatic service rifles: loan or donation for funeral and other ceremonial purposes” for “Excess M-1 rifles: loan or donation for funeral and other ceremonial purposes” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 112-239, § 1051(a)(1), added par. (3).

1999—Pub. L. 106-65, § 381(d)(1), substituted “Excess M-1 rifles: loan or donation for funeral and other ceremonial purposes” for “Obsolete or condemned rifles: loan to local units of recognized veterans’ organizations” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106-65, § 381(a), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows: “The Secretary of the Army, under regulations to be prescribed by him, may—

- “(1) lend obsolete or condemned rifles (not more than 10), slings, and cartridge belts to any local unit of any national veterans’ organization recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs, for use by that unit for funeral ceremonies of a member or former member of the armed forces, and for other ceremonial purposes; and
- “(2) issue and deliver to those units blank ammunition for those rifles—

“(A) without charge, if it is to be used for ceremonies at national cemeteries; and

“(B) without charge, except for packing, handling, and transportation, if it is to be used for other ceremonies.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-65, §381(c), inserted heading, substituted “an eligible organization” for “a unit” and “lent or donated” for “lent” in two places.

Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 106-65, §381(b), added subsecs. (c) and (d).

1989—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 101-189 substituted “Department of Veterans Affairs” for “Veterans’ Administration”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 7684. Surplus obsolete ordnance: sale to patriotic organizations

Subject to regulations under section 121 of title 40, any branch, office, or officer designated by the Secretary of the Army may sell, without advertisement and at prices that he considers reasonable—

(1) surplus obsolete small arms and ammunition and equipment for them, to any patriotic organization for military purposes; and

(2) surplus obsolete brass or bronze cannons, carriages, and cannon balls, for public parks, public buildings, and soldiers’ monuments.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 262, §4684; Pub. L. 96-513, title V, §512(19), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2930; Pub. L. 107-217, §3(b)(26), Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1297; renumbered §7684, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §808(d), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1839.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
4684	50:64. 50:68.	May 28, 1908, ch. 215, §14, 35 Stat. 443; June 28, 1950, ch. 383, §402(g), 64 Stat. 273; Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 654, §2(26), 65 Stat. 707. Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 319, §47, 35 Stat. 1075; June 28, 1950, ch. 383, §402(1), 64 Stat. 273; Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 654, §2(28), 65 Stat. 707.

50:64 (proviso) and 50:68 (proviso) are omitted as surplusage.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 4684 of this title as this section.

2002—Pub. L. 107-217 substituted “section 121 of title 40” for “section 205 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 486)” in introductory provisions.

1980—Pub. L. 96-513 substituted “section 205 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 486)” for “section 486 of title 40”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-513 effective Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701(b)(3) of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

§ 7685. Obsolete ordnance: loan to educational institutions and State soldiers and sailors’ orphans’ homes

(a) Upon the recommendation of the governor of the State concerned or Guam or the Virgin Islands, the Secretary of the Army, under regulations to be prescribed by him and without cost to the United States for transportation, may lend obsolete ordnance and ordnance stores to State, Guam, and the Virgin Islands educational institutions and to State soldiers and sailors’ orphans’ homes, for drill and instruction. However, no loan may be made under this subsection to an institution to which ordnance or ordnance stores may be issued under any law that was in effect on June 30, 1906, and is still in effect.

(b) The Secretary shall require a bond from each institution or home to which property is lent under subsection (a), in double the value of the property lent, for the care and safekeeping of that property and, except for property properly expended, for its return when required.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 263, §4685; Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1057(a)(10), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3441; renumbered §7685, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §808(d), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1839.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
4685(a)	50:62a (1st par. and proviso of last par.).	June 30, 1906, ch. 3938, 34 Stat. 817.
4685(b)	50:62a (last par., less proviso).	

In subsection (a), the words “at his discretion” and “as may be available” are omitted as surplusage. The word “lend” is substituted for the word “issue” to reflect the intent of the section. 50:62a (1st 13 words of proviso) is omitted as surplusage. The words “and which is still in effect” are inserted for clarity.

In subsection (b), the words “to the United States” are omitted as surplusage. The words “except property properly expended” are inserted for clarity.

The words “subject to such regulations as he may prescribe” are omitted, since the Secretary has inherent authority to issue regulations appropriate to exercising his statutory functions. The words “to any of the ‘National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers’ already established or hereafter established and”, in the Act of February 8, 1889, ch. 116, 25 Stat. 657, are not contained in 50:66 (1st sentence). They are also omitted from the revised section, since the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers were dissolved by the Act of July 3, 1930, ch. 863, 46 Stat. 1016. The Acts of March 3, 1899, ch. 643 (1st proviso under “Ordnance Department”), 30 Stat. 1073; and May 26, 1900, ch. 586 (1st proviso under “Ordnance Department”), 31 Stat. 216, as amended, relating to disposal of ordnance to “Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers” by the Chief of Ordnance, became inoperative when the Homes were dissolved. Although section 402(e) of the Army Organization Act of 1950, ch. 383, 64 Stat. 273, amended the Act of May 26, 1900, it did not have the effect of reviving that act. The word “give” is substituted for the word “deliver” to express more clearly the intent of the section. The words “serviceable” and “as may be on hand undisposed of” are omitted as surplusage. The word “may” is substituted for the words “is authorized and directed”, since section 4684 of this title provides an alternative method for the disposal of obsolete cannon.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 4685 of this title as this section.