- (a) To prescribe, amend, and repeal such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary, and to accept contributions for carrying out the purposes of said sections; and
- (b) To employ, subject to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, one special assistant and not to exceed five artists and illustrators.

(July 19, 1940, ch. 642, §4, 54 Stat. 774; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 782, title XI, §1106(a), 63 Stat. 972; Pub. L. 93–193, §2, Dec. 19, 1973, 87 Stat. 765.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 18c of Title 16. Conservation.

Provisions of par. (b) authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to employ "without regard to the civil-service laws" were omitted as such employment is subject to the civil service laws unless specifically excepted by those laws or by laws enacted subsequent to Executive Order 8743, Apr. 23, 1941, issued by the President pursuant to the Act of Nov. 26, 1940, ch. 919, title I, §1, 54 Stat. 1211, which covered most excepted positions into the classified (competitive) civil service. The Order is set out as a note under section 3301 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

"Chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5" substituted in par. (b) for "the Classification Act of 1949, as amended" on authority of Pub. L. 89–554, \$7(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 631, the first section of which enacted Title 5.

AMENDMENTS

1949—Par. (b). Act Oct. 28, 1949, substituted "Classification Act of 1949" for "Classification Act of 1923".

REPEALS

Act Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 782, cited as a credit to this section, was repealed (subject to a savings clause) by Pub. L. 89–554, Sept. 6, 1966, §8, 80 Stat. 632, 655.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Secretary of Commerce substituted for Secretary of the Interior in view of transfer of functions to Secretary of Commerce from Secretary of the Interior by section 2 of Pub. L. 93–193. See Transfer of Functions note set out under section 1544 of this title.

§ 1548. Authorization of appropriations

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 1544 to 1548 of this title, there are authorized to be appropriated not to exceed \$2,500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976; \$625,000 for the transition period of July 1, 1976, through September 30, 1976; \$2,500,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977, and \$2,500,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977.

(July 19, 1940, ch. 642, §5, 54 Stat. 774; Pub. L. 91–549, Dec. 14, 1970, 84 Stat. 1437; Pub. L. 94–55, §2(a), July 9, 1975, 89 Stat. 262.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 18d of Title 16, Conservation.

AMENDMENTS

1648.

1649.

1650.

1651.

Reverse mortgages.

conflicts of interest.

decedent obligors.

Certain limitations on liability.

Preventing unfair and deceptive private edu-

Procedure for timely settlement of estates of

cational lending practices and eliminating

1975—Pub. L. 94–55 substituted provisions authorizing appropriations not to exceed \$2,500,000 for fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, \$625,000 for the transition period of July 1, 1976 through Sept. 30, 1976, \$2,500,000 for fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1977, and \$2,500,000 for fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1978, for provisions authorizing appropriations not to exceed \$250,000 for fiscal year 1971 and \$750,000 for fiscal year 1972.

1970—Pub. L. 91-549 substituted provisions authorizing appropriations of not more than \$250,000 for fiscal year 1971 and not more than \$750,000 for fiscal year 1972, for provisions which authorized appropriations of not more than \$100,000 annually.

CHAPTER 41—CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION

SUBCHAPTER I—CONSUMER CREDIT COST DISCLOSURE

SUBCHAPTER I—CONSUMER CREDIT COST DISCLOSURE					
PART A—GENERAL PROVISIONS					
	Sec.				
	1601.	Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.			
	1602.	Definitions and rules of construction.			
	1603.	Exempted transactions.			
	1604.	Disclosure guidelines.			
	1605.	Determination of finance charge.			
	1606.	Determination of annual percentage rate.			
	1607.	Administrative enforcement.			
	1608.	Views of other agencies.			
	1609.	Repealed.			
	1610.	Effect on other laws.			
	1611.	Criminal liability for willful and knowing violation.			
	1612.	Effect on government agencies.			
	1613.	Annual reports to Congress by Bureau.			
	1614.	Repealed.			
	1615.	Prohibition on use of "Rule of 78's" in con-			
		nection with mortgage refinancings and other consumer loans.			
	1616.	Board review of consumer credit plans and			
		regulations.			
		PART B—CREDIT TRANSACTIONS			
	1631.	Disclosure requirements.			
	1632.	Form of disclosure; additional information.			
	1633.	Exemption for State-regulated transactions.			
	1634.	Effect of subsequent occurrence.			
	1635.	Right of rescission as to certain transactions.			
	1636.	Repealed.			
	1637.	Open end consumer credit plans.			
	1637a.	Disclosure requirements for open end con- sumer credit plans secured by consumer's			
	1,000	principal dwelling.			
	1638.	Transactions other than under an open end credit plan.			
	1638a.	Reset of hybrid adjustable rate mortgages.			
	1639.	Requirements for certain mortgages.			
	1639a.	Duty of servicers of residential mortgages.			
	1639b. 1639c.	Residential mortgage loan origination.			
		Minimum standards for residential mortgage loans.			
	1639d.	Escrow or impound accounts relating to certain consumer credit transactions.			
	1639e.	Appraisal independence requirements.			
	1639f.	Requirements for prompt crediting of home loan payments.			
	1639g.	Requests for payoff amounts of home loan.			
	1639h.	Property appraisal requirements.			
	1640.	Civil liability.			
	1641.	Liability of assignees.			
	1642.	Issuance of credit cards.			
	1643.	Liability of holder of credit card.			
	1644.	Fraudulent use of credit cards; penalties.			
	1645.	Business credit cards; limits on liability of			
	1646.	employees. Dissemination of annual percentage rates;			
	1647.	implementation, etc. Home equity plans.			
	1011.	nome equity plans.			

Sec.		Sec.	
Part	C—CREDIT ADVERTISING AND LIMITS ON CREDIT	1679c.	Disclosures.
	CARD FEES	1679d. 1679e.	Credit repair organizations contracts. Right to cancel contract.
1661.	Catalogs and multiple-page advertisements.	1679f.	Noncompliance with this subchapter.
1662.	Advertising of downpayments and installments.	1679g.	Civil liability.
1663.	Advertising of open end credit plans.	1679h.	Administrative enforcement.
1664.	Advertising of credit other than open end	1679i. 1679j.	Statute of limitations. Relation to State law.
	plans.	·	
1665.	Nonliability of advertising media.		APTER III—CREDIT REPORTING AGENCIES
1665a.	Use of annual percentage rate in oral disclosures; exceptions.	1681.	Congressional findings and statement of pur-
1665b.	Advertising of open end consumer credit	1681a.	pose. Definitions; rules of construction.
	plans secured by consumer's principal	1681b.	Permissible purposes of consumer reports.
400=	dwelling.	1681c.	Requirements relating to information con-
1665c.	Interest rate reduction on open end consumer credit plans.		tained in consumer reports.
1665d.	Reasonable penalty fees on open end con-	1681c–1.	Identity theft prevention; fraud alerts and ac-
	sumer credit plans.	1681c-2.	tive duty alerts. Block of information resulting from identity
1665e.	Consideration of ability to repay.	10010 2.	theft.
	PART D—CREDIT BILLING	1681d.	Disclosure of investigative consumer reports.
1666.	Correction of billing errors.	1681e.	Compliance procedures.
1666a.	Regulation of credit reports.	1681f.	Disclosures to governmental agencies.
1666b.	Timing of payments.	1681g. 1681h.	Disclosures to consumers. Conditions and form of disclosure to consum-
1666c.	Prompt and fair crediting of payments.	100111.	ers.
1666d.	Treatment of credit balances.	1681i.	Procedure in case of disputed accuracy.
1666e.	Notification of credit card issuer by seller of	1681j.	Charges for certain disclosures.
	return of goods, etc., by obligor; credit for	1681k.	Public record information for employment
1666f.	account of obligor. Inducements to cardholders by sellers of cash	10011	purposes.
10001.	discounts for payments by eash, check or	1681l.	Restrictions on investigative consumer reports.
	similar means; finance charge for sales	1681m.	Requirements on users of consumer reports.
	transactions involving cash discounts.	1681n.	Civil liability for willful noncompliance.
1666g.	Tie-in services prohibited for issuance of	1681 <i>o</i> .	Civil liability for negligent noncompliance.
	credit card.	1681p.	Jurisdiction of courts; limitation of actions.
1666h.	Offset of cardholder's indebtedness by issuer	1681q.	Obtaining information under false pretenses.
	of credit card with funds deposited with is- suer by cardholder; remedies of creditors	1681r.	Unauthorized disclosures by officers or em-
	under State law not affected.	1681s.	ployees. Administrative enforcement.
1666i.	Assertion by cardholder against card issuer of	1681s-1.	Information on overdue child support obliga-
	claims and defenses arising out of credit	10010 1.	tions.
	card transaction; prerequisites; limitation	1681s-2.	Responsibilities of furnishers of information
1000: 1	on amount of claims or defenses.		to consumer reporting agencies.
1666i–1.	Limits on interest rate, fee, and finance charge increases applicable to outstanding	1681s-3.	Affiliate sharing.
	balances.	1681t. 1681u.	Relation to State laws. Disclosures to FBI for counterintelligence
1666i-2.		1001u.	purposes.
1666j.	Applicability of State laws.	1681v.	Disclosures to governmental agencies for
	PART E—CONSUMER LEASES		counterterrorism purposes.
1007		1681w.	Disposal of records.
1667. 1667a.	Definitions. Consumer lease disclosures.	1681x.	Corporate and technological circumvention prohibited.
1667b.	Lessee's liability on expiration or termi-	GIIDGII	_
	nation of lease.		APTER IV—EQUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY
1667c.	Consumer lease advertising; liability of ad-	1691.	Scope of prohibition.
10074	vertising media.	1691a. 1691b.	Definitions; rules of construction. Promulgation of regulations by the Bureau.
1667d. 1667e.	Civil liability of lessors. Applicability of State laws; exemptions by	1691c.	Administrative enforcement.
10016.	Bureau from leasing requirements.	1691c-1.	Incentives for self-testing and self-correction.
1667f.	Regulations.	1691c-2.	Small business loan data collection.
	SUBCHAPTER II—RESTRICTIONS ON	1691d.	Applicability of other laws.
	GARNISHMENT	1691e.	Civil liability.
1671.	Congressional findings and declaration of pur-	1691f.	Annual reports to Congress; contents.
1011.	pose.	SUBCH	APTER V—DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES
1672.	Definitions.	1692.	Congressional findings and declaration of pur-
1673.	Restriction on garnishment.	1000	pose.
1674.	Restriction on discharge from employment by	1692a.	Definitions.
1675	reason of garnishment.	1692b. 1692c.	Acquisition of location information. Communication in connection with debt col-
1675. 1676.	Exemption for State-regulated garnishments. Enforcement by Secretary of Labor.	10020.	lection.
1677.	Effect on State laws.	1692d.	Harassment or abuse.
	SUBCHAPTER II-A—CREDIT REPAIR	1692e.	False or misleading representations.
	ORGANIZATIONS	1692f.	Unfair practices.
1670		1692g.	Validation of debts.
1679. 1679a.	Findings and purposes. Definitions.	1692h. 1692i.	Multiple debts. Legal actions by debt collectors.
1679a.	Prohibited practices.	16921. 1692j.	Furnishing certain deceptive forms.
10.00.	Processor.		

Sec.

1692k. Civil liability.

1692l. Administrative enforcement.

1692m. Reports to Congress by the Bureau; views of

other Federal agencies. 1692n. Relation to State laws.

16920. Exemption for State regulation.

1692p Exception for certain bad check enforcement programs operated by private entities.

SUBCHAPTER VI—ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

1693. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.

1693a. Definitions. 1693b. Regulations.

1693c. Terms and conditions of transfers.

1693d. Documentation of transfers.1693e. Preauthorized transfers.

1693f. Error resolution.1693g. Consumer liability.

1693h. Liability of financial institutions.

1693i. Issuance of cards or other means of access.

1693j. Suspension of obligations.

1693k. Compulsory use of electronic fund transfers.

1693l. Waiver of rights.

1693p.

16931-1. General-use prepaid cards, gift certificates,

and store gift cards. 1693m. Civil liability.

1693n. Criminal liability.
1693o. Administrative enforcement.

1693*o*–1. Remittance transfers.

1693o-2. Reasonable fees and rules for payment card

transactions.
Reports to Congress.
Relation to State laws.

1693q. Relation to State laws.1693r. Exemption for State regulation.

SUBCHAPTER I—CONSUMER CREDIT COST DISCLOSURE

PART A—GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 1601. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose

(a) Informed use of credit

The Congress finds that economic stabilization would be enhanced and the competition among the various financial institutions and other firms engaged in the extension of consumer credit would be strengthened by the informed use of credit. The informed use of credit results from an awareness of the cost thereof by consumers. It is the purpose of this subchapter to assure a meaningful disclosure of credit terms so that the consumer will be able to compare more readily the various credit terms available to him and avoid the uninformed use of credit, and to protect the consumer against inaccurate and unfair credit billing and credit card practices.

(b) Terms of personal property leases

The Congress also finds that there has been a recent trend toward leasing automobiles and other durable goods for consumer use as an alternative to installment credit sales and that these leases have been offered without adequate cost disclosures. It is the purpose of this subchapter to assure a meaningful disclosure of the terms of leases of personal property for personal, family, or household purposes so as to enable the lessee to compare more readily the various lease terms available to him, limit balloon payments in consumer leasing, enable comparison of lease terms with credit terms where ap-

propriate, and to assure meaningful and accurate disclosures of lease terms in advertise-

(Pub. L. 90–321, title I, §102, May 29, 1968, 82 Stat. 146; Pub. L. 93–495, title III, §302, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1511; Pub. L. 94–240, §2, Mar. 23, 1976, 90 Stat. 257.)

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94–240 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1974—Pub. L. 93-495 inserted provisions expanding purposes of subchapter to include protection of consumer against inaccurate and unfair credit billing and credit card practices.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111–203, title XIV, 1400(c), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2136, provided that:

"(1) REGULATIONS.—The regulations required to be prescribed under this title [see Tables for classification] or the amendments made by this title shall—

 $^{44}(A)$ be prescribed in final form before the end of the 18-month period beginning on the designated transfer date; and

 $\lq\lq(B)$ take effect not later than 12 months after the date of issuance of the regulations in final form.

"(2) EFFECTIVE DATE ESTABLISHED BY RULE.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), a section, or provision thereof, of this title shall take effect on the date on which the final regulations implementing such section, or provision, take effect.

"(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A section of this title for which regulations have not been issued on the date that is 18 months after the designated transfer date shall take effect on such date."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 94–240 effective on expiration of one year after Mar. 23, 1976, see section 6 of Pub. L. 94–240, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1667 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1974 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 93–495, see section 308 of Pub. L. 93–495, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1666 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 504(a) of Pub. L. 90-321 provided that this part is effective May 29, 1968.

SHORT TITLE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 115-174, §1(a), May 24, 2018, 132 Stat. 1296, provided that: "This Act [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the 'Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act'."

SHORT TITLE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114-94, div. G, title LXXXIX, \$89001, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1799, provided that: "This title [amending sections 1639c and 1639d of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 5512 of Title 12, Banks and Banking] may be cited as the 'Helping Expand Lending Practices in Rural Communities Act of 2015' or the 'HELP Rural Communities Act of 2015'."

SHORT TITLE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111–319, §1, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3457, provided that: "This Act [amending section 1681m of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 1681m of this title] may be cited as the 'Red Flag Program Clarification Act of 2010'."

Pub. L. 111-203, title XIV, §1400(a), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2136, provided that: "This title [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the 'Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act'."