

§ 954. Transshipment and in-transit shipment of controlled substances

Notwithstanding sections 952, 953, and 957 of this title—

(1) A controlled substance in schedule I may—

(A) be imported into the United States for transshipment to another country, or

(B) be transferred or transshipped from one vessel, vehicle, or aircraft to another vessel, vehicle, or aircraft within the United States for immediate exportation,

if and only if it is so imported, transferred, or transshipped (i) for scientific, medical, or other legitimate purposes in the country of destination, and (ii) with the prior written approval of the Attorney General (which shall be granted or denied within 21 days of the request).

(2) A controlled substance in schedule II, III, or IV may be so imported, transferred, or transshipped if and only if advance notice is given to the Attorney General in accordance with regulations of the Attorney General.

(Pub. L. 91-513, title III, §1004, Oct. 27, 1970, 84 Stat. 1287.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Schedules I, II, III, and IV, referred to in text, are set out in section 812(c) of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on first day of seventh calendar month that begins after Oct. 26, 1970, see 1105(a) of Pub. L. 91-513, set out as a under section 951 of this title.

§ 955. Possession on board vessels, etc., arriving in or departing from United States

It shall be unlawful for any person to bring or possess on board any vessel or aircraft, or on board any vehicle of a carrier, arriving in or departing from the United States or the customs territory of the United States, a controlled substance in schedule I or II or a narcotic drug in schedule III or IV, unless such substance or drug is a part of the cargo entered in the manifest or part of the official supplies of the vessel, aircraft, or vehicle.

(Pub. L. 91-513, title III, §1005, Oct. 27, 1970, 84 Stat. 1287.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Schedules I, II, III, and IV, referred to in text, are set out in section 812(c) of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on first day of seventh calendar month that begins after Oct. 26, 1970, see 1105(a) of Pub. L. 91-513, set out as a under section 951 of this title.

§§ 955a to 955d. Transferred

CODIFICATION

Sections, Pub. L. 96-350, §§1-4, Sept. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 1159, 1160, relating to maritime drug law enforcement, were transferred to sections 1901 to 1904 of the former Appendix to Title 46, Shipping. Sections 1901 to 1904 of the former Appendix to Title 46 were repealed and restated in chapter 705 of Title 46, Shipping, by Pub. L. 109-304, §§10(2), 19, Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1683, 1710. For disposition of sections of the former Appendix to Title

46, see Disposition Table preceding section 101 of Title 46.

§ 956. Exemption authority

(a) Individual possessing controlled substance

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Attorney General may by regulation exempt from sections 952(a) and (b), 953, 954, and 955 of this title any individual who has a controlled substance (except a substance in schedule I) in his possession for his personal medical use, or for administration to an animal accompanying him, if he lawfully obtained such substance and he makes such declaration (or gives such other notification) as the Attorney General may by regulation require.

(2) Notwithstanding any exemption under paragraph (1), a United States resident who enters the United States through an international land border with a controlled substance (except a substance in schedule I) for which the individual does not possess a valid prescription issued by a practitioner (as defined in section 802 of this title) in accordance with applicable Federal and State law (or documentation that verifies the issuance of such a prescription to that individual) may not import the controlled substance into the United States in an amount that exceeds 50 dosage units of the controlled substance.

(b) Compound, mixture, or preparation

The Attorney General may by regulation except any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any depressant or stimulant substance listed in paragraph (a) or (b) of schedule III or in schedule IV or V from the application of all or any part of this subchapter if (1) the compound, mixture, or preparation contains one or more active medicinal ingredients not having a depressant or stimulant effect on the central nervous system, and (2) such ingredients are included therein in such combinations, quantity, proportion, or concentration as to vitiate the potential for abuse of the substances which do have a depressant or stimulant effect on the central nervous system.

(Pub. L. 91-513, title III, §1006, Oct. 27, 1970, 84 Stat. 1288; Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title VIII, §872(a), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-707; Pub. L. 105-357, §2(a), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3271.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Schedules I, III, IV, and V, referred to in text, are set out in section 812(c) of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-277 and Pub. L. 105-357 amended subsec. (a) identically, designating existing provisions as par. (1), substituting “Subject to paragraph (2), the Attorney General” for “The Attorney General”, and adding par. (2).

FEDERAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

Pub. L. 105-357, §2(b), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3271, provided that: “Section 1006(a)(2) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act [21 U.S.C. 956(a)(2)], as added by this section, is a minimum Federal requirement and shall not be construed to limit a State from imposing any additional requirement.”

Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title VIII, §872(b), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-707, enacted a provision substantially

identical to that enacted by Pub. L. 105-357, §2(b), set out above.

JURISDICTION OF SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title VIII, §872(c), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-707, and Pub. L. 105-357, §2(c), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3271, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall not be construed to affect the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.)."

§ 957. Persons required to register

(a) Coverage

No person may—

(1) import into the customs territory of the United States from any place outside thereof (but within the United States), or import into the United States from any place outside thereof, any controlled substance or list I chemical, or

(2) export from the United States any controlled substance or list I chemical,

unless there is in effect with respect to such person a registration issued by the Attorney General under section 958 of this title, or unless such person is exempt from registration under subsection (b).

(b) Exemptions

(1) The following persons shall not be required to register under the provisions of this section and may lawfully possess a controlled substance or list I chemical:

(A) An agent or an employee of any importer or exporter registered under section 958 of this title if such agent or employee is acting in the usual course of his business or employment.

(B) A common or contract carrier or warehouseman, or an employee thereof, whose possession of any controlled substance or list I chemical is in the usual course of his business or employment.

(C) An ultimate user who possesses such substance for a purpose specified in section 802(25)¹ of this title and in conformity with an exemption granted under section 956(a) of this title.

(2) The Attorney General may, by regulation, waive the requirement for registration of certain importers and exporters if he finds it consistent with the public health and safety; and may authorize any such importer or exporter to possess controlled substances or list I chemicals for purposes of importation and exportation.

(Pub. L. 91-513, title III, §1007, Oct. 27, 1970, 84 Stat. 1288; Pub. L. 98-473, title II, §523, Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2076; Pub. L. 103-200, §3(e), Dec. 17, 1993, 107 Stat. 2337.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 802(25) of this title, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(C), was redesignated section 802(26) of this title by Pub. L. 98-473, title II, §507(a), Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2071, and was further redesignated section 802(27) of this title by Pub. L. 99-570, title I, §1003(b)(2), Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-6.

¹ See References in Text note below.

AMENDMENTS

1993—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 103-200, §3(e)(1)(A), inserted "or list I chemical" after "controlled substance".

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 103-200, §3(e)(1)(B), substituted "or list I chemical," for "in schedule I, II, III, IV, or V."

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 103-200, §3(e)(2)(A), inserted "or list I chemical" after "controlled substance" in introductory provisions and subpar. (B).

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 103-200, §3(e)(2)(B), inserted "or list I chemicals" after "controlled substances".

1984—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 98-473 inserted reference to schedule V.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-200 effective on date that is 120 days after Dec. 17, 1993, see section 11 of Pub. L. 103-200, set out as a note under section 802 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on first day of seventh calendar month that begins after Oct. 26, 1970, see 1105(a) of Pub. L. 91-513, set out as a under section 951 of this title.

PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION

Pub. L. 91-513, title III, §1104, Oct. 27, 1970, 84 Stat. 1294, as amended by Pub. L. 99-514, §2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095, provided that:

"(a)(1) Any person—

"(A) who is engaged in importing or exporting any controlled substance on the day before the effective date of section 1007 [May 1, 1971],

"(B) who notifies the Attorney General that he is so engaged, and

"(C) who is registered on such day under section 510 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [section 360 of this title] or under section 4722 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 [formerly I.R.C. 1954, section 4722 of title 26],

shall, with respect to each establishment for which such registration is in effect under any such section, be deemed to have a provisional registration under section 1008 [section 958 of this title] for the import or export (as the case may be) of controlled substances.

"(2) During the period his provisional registration is in effect under this section, the registration number assigned such person under such section 510 or under such section 4722 (as the case may be) shall be his registration number for purposes of part A of this title [this subchapter].

"(b) The provisions of section 304 [section 824 of this title], relating to suspension and revocation of registration, shall apply to a provisional registration under this section.

"(c) Unless sooner suspended or revoked under subsection (b), a provisional registration of a person under subsection (a)(1) of this section shall be in effect until—

"(1) the date on which such person has registered with the Attorney General under section 1008 [section 958 of this title] or has had his registration denied under such section, or

"(2) such date as may be prescribed by the Attorney General for registration of importers or exporters, as the case may be, whichever occurs first."

§ 958. Registration requirements

(a) Applicants to import or export controlled substances in schedule I or II

The Attorney General shall register an applicant to import or export a controlled substance in schedule I or II if he determines that such registration is consistent with the public interest and with United States obligations under international treaties, conventions, or protocols in effect on May 1, 1971. In determining the pub-