

SUBCHAPTER II—EXCHANGE OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS FOR NONCRIMINAL JUSTICE PURPOSES

§ 40311. Findings

Congress finds that—

(1) both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and State criminal history record repositories maintain fingerprint-based criminal history records;

(2) these criminal history records are shared and exchanged for criminal justice purposes through a Federal-State program known as the Interstate Identification Index System;

(3) although these records are also exchanged for legally authorized, noncriminal justice uses, such as governmental licensing and employment background checks, the purposes for and procedures by which they are exchanged vary widely from State to State;

(4) an interstate and Federal-State compact is necessary to facilitate authorized interstate criminal history record exchanges for non-criminal justice purposes on a uniform basis, while permitting each State to effectuate its own dissemination policy within its own borders; and

(5) such a compact will allow Federal and State records to be provided expeditiously to governmental and nongovernmental agencies that use such records in accordance with pertinent Federal and State law, while simultaneously enhancing the accuracy of the records and safeguarding the information contained therein from unauthorized disclosure or use.

(Pub. L. 105-251, title II, §212, Oct. 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 1874.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 14611 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

§ 40312. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) **Attorney General**

The term “Attorney General” means the Attorney General of the United States.

(2) **Compact**

The term “Compact” means the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact set forth in section 40316 of this title.

(3) **Council**

The term “Council” means the Compact Council established under Article VI of the Compact.

(4) **FBI**

The term “FBI” means the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(5) **Party State**

The term “Party State” means a State that has ratified the Compact.

(6) **State**

The term “State” means any State, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(Pub. L. 105-251, title II, §213, Oct. 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 1874.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 14612 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

§ 40313. Enactment and consent of the United States

The National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact, as set forth in section 40316 of this title, is enacted into law and entered into by the Federal Government. The consent of Congress is given to States to enter into the Compact.

(Pub. L. 105-251, title II, §214, Oct. 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 1875.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 14613 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

§ 40314. Effect on other laws

(a) **Privacy Act of 1974**

Nothing in the Compact shall affect the obligations and responsibilities of the FBI under section 552a of title 5 (commonly known as the “Privacy Act of 1974”).

(b) **Access to certain records not affected**

Nothing in the Compact shall interfere in any manner with—

(1) access, direct or otherwise, to records pursuant to—

(A) section 9101 of title 5;

(B) the National Child Protection Act<sup>1</sup> [34 U.S.C. 40101 et seq.];

(C) the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (Public Law 103-159; 107 Stat. 1536);

(D) the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322; 108 Stat. 2074) or any amendment made by that Act;

(E) the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.); or

(F) the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.); or

(2) any direct access to Federal criminal history records authorized by law.

(c) **Authority of FBI under Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1973**

Nothing in the Compact shall be construed to affect the authority of the FBI under the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1973 (Public Law 92-544 (86 Stat. 1115)).

(d) **Federal Advisory Committee Act**

The Council shall not be considered to be a Federal advisory committee for purposes of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

(e) **Members of Council not Federal officers or employees**

Members of the Council (other than a member from the FBI or any at-large member who may

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

be a Federal official or employee) shall not, by virtue of such membership, be deemed—

(1) to be, for any purpose other than to effect the Compact, officers or employees of the United States (as defined in sections 2104 and 2105 of title 5); or

(2) to become entitled by reason of Council membership to any compensation or benefit payable or made available by the Federal Government to its officers or employees.

(Pub. L. 105-251, title II, §215, Oct. 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 1875.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Privacy Act of 1974, referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 93-579, Dec. 31, 1974, 88 Stat. 1896, which enacted section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and provisions set out as notes under section 552a of Title 5. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 552a of Title 5 and Tables.

The National Child Protection Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(B), probably means the National Child Protection Act of 1993, Pub. L. 103-209, Dec. 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 2490, which is classified principally to chapter 401 (§40101 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1993 Act note set out under section 10101 of this title and Tables.

The Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(C), is title I of Pub. L. 103-159, Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1536, which enacted section 925A of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, amended sections 921, 922, and 924 of Title 18 and former section 3759 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 921 and 922 of Title 18. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1993 Amendment note set out under section 921 of Title 18 and Tables.

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(D), is Pub. L. 103-322, Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 1796. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1994 Act note set out under section 10101 of this title and Tables.

The United States Housing Act of 1937, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(E), is act Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, as revised generally by Pub. L. 93-383, title II, §201(a), Aug. 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 653, which is classified generally to chapter 8 (§1437 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1437 of Title 42 and Tables.

The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(F), is Pub. L. 104-330, Oct. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 4016, which is classified principally to chapter 43 (§4101 et seq.) of Title 25, Indians. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4101 of Title 25 and Tables.

The Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1973, referred to in subsec. (c), is Pub. L. 92-544, Oct. 25, 1972, 86 Stat. 1109. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 14614 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

#### § 40315. Enforcement and implementation

All departments, agencies, officers, and employees of the United States shall enforce the

Compact and cooperate with one another and with all Party States in enforcing the Compact and effectuating its purposes. For the Federal Government, the Attorney General shall make such rules, prescribe such instructions, and take such other actions as may be necessary to carry out the Compact and this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 105-251, title II, §216, Oct. 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 1875.)

#### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 14615 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

#### § 40316. National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact

The Contracting Parties agree to the following:

#### OVERVIEW

##### (a) In general

This Compact organizes an electronic information sharing system among the Federal Government and the States to exchange criminal history records for noncriminal justice purposes authorized by Federal or State law, such as background checks for governmental licensing and employment.

##### (b) Obligations of parties

Under this Compact, the FBI and the Party States agree to maintain detailed databases of their respective criminal history records, including arrests and dispositions, and to make them available to the Federal Government and to Party States for authorized purposes. The FBI shall also manage the Federal data facilities that provide a significant part of the infrastructure for the system.

#### ARTICLE I—DEFINITIONS

In this Compact:

##### (1) Attorney General

The term “Attorney General” means the Attorney General of the United States.

##### (2) Compact officer

The term “Compact officer” means—

(A) with respect to the Federal Government, an official so designated by the Director of the FBI; and

(B) with respect to a Party State, the chief administrator of the State’s criminal history record repository or a designee of the chief administrator who is a regular full-time employee of the repository.

##### (3) Council

The term “Council” means the Compact Council established under Article VI.

##### (4) Criminal history records

The term “criminal history records”—

(A) means information collected by criminal justice agencies on individuals consisting of identifiable descriptions and notations of arrests, detentions, indictments, or other formal criminal charges, and any disposition arising therefrom, including acquittal, sen-