

§ 5207. Firearms policies

(a) Prohibition on confiscation of firearms

No officer or employee of the United States (including any member of the uniformed services), or person operating pursuant to or under color of Federal law, or receiving Federal funds, or under control of any Federal official, or providing services to such an officer, employee, or other person, while acting in support of relief from a major disaster or emergency, may—

(1) temporarily or permanently seize, or authorize seizure of, any firearm the possession of which is not prohibited under Federal, State, or local law, other than for forfeiture in compliance with Federal law or as evidence in a criminal investigation;

(2) require registration of any firearm for which registration is not required by Federal, State, or local law;

(3) prohibit possession of any firearm, or promulgate any rule, regulation, or order prohibiting possession of any firearm, in any place or by any person where such possession is not otherwise prohibited by Federal, State, or local law; or

(4) prohibit the carrying of firearms by any person otherwise authorized to carry firearms under Federal, State, or local law, solely because such person is operating under the direction, control, or supervision of a Federal agency in support of relief from the major disaster or emergency.

(b) Limitation

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any person in subsection (a) from requiring the temporary surrender of a firearm as a condition for entry into any mode of transportation used for rescue or evacuation during a major disaster or emergency, provided that such temporarily surrendered firearm is returned at the completion of such rescue or evacuation.

(c) Private rights of action

(1) In general

Any individual aggrieved by a violation of this section may seek relief in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress against any person who subjects such individual, or causes such individual to be subjected, to the deprivation of any of the rights, privileges, or immunities secured by this section.

(2) Remedies

In addition to any existing remedy in law or equity, under any law, an individual aggrieved by the seizure or confiscation of a firearm in violation of this section may bring an action for return of such firearm in the United States district court in the district in which that individual resides or in which such firearm may be found.

(3) Attorney fees

In any action or proceeding to enforce this section, the court shall award the prevailing party, other than the United States, a reasonable attorney's fee as part of the costs.

(Pub. L. 93-288, title VII, §706, as added Pub. L. 109-295, title V, §557, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1391.)

§ 5208. Repealed. Pub. L. 112-74, div. D, title III, Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 963

Section, Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title III, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2064, related to Federal Emergency Management Agency monthly Disaster Relief reports.

CHAPTER 69—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Sec.
- 5301. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.
- 5302. General provisions.
- 5303. Grants to States, units of general local government and Indian tribes; authorizations.
- 5304. Statement of activities and review.
- 5305. Activities eligible for assistance.
- 5306. Allocation and distribution of funds.
- 5307. Special purpose grants.
- 5308. Guarantee and commitment to guarantee loans for acquisition of property.
- 5309. Nondiscrimination in programs and activities.
- 5310. Labor standards; rate of wages; exceptions; enforcement powers.
- 5311. Remedies for noncompliance with community development requirements.
- 5312. Use of grants for settlement of outstanding urban renewal loans of units of general local government.
- 5313. Reporting requirements.
- 5313a. Duplication of benefits.
- 5314. Consultation by Secretary with other Federal departments, etc.
- 5315. Interstate agreements or compacts; purposes.
- 5316. Transition provisions.
- 5317. Liquidation of superseded or inactive programs.
- 5318. Urban development action grants.
- 5318a. John Heinz Neighborhood Development Program.
- 5319. Community participation in programs.
- 5320. Historic preservation requirements.
- 5321. Suspension of requirements for disaster areas.

§ 5301. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose

(a) Critical social, economic, and environmental problems facing Nation's urban communities

The Congress finds and declares that the Nation's cities, towns, and smaller urban communities face critical social, economic, and environmental problems arising in significant measure from—

(1) the growth of population in metropolitan and other urban areas, and the concentration of persons of lower income in central cities;

(2) inadequate public and private investment and reinvestment in housing and other physical facilities, and related public and social services, resulting in the growth and persistence of urban slums and blight and the marked deterioration of the quality of the urban environment; and

(3) increasing energy costs which have seriously undermined the quality and overall effectiveness of local community and housing development activities.