

**§ 501. Government printing, binding, and blank-book work to be done at Government Publishing Office**

All printing, binding, and blank-book work for Congress, the Executive Office, the Judiciary, other than the Supreme Court of the United States, and every executive department, independent office and establishment of the Government, shall be done at the Government Publishing Office, except—

(1) classes of work the Joint Committee on Printing considers to be urgent or necessary to have done elsewhere; and

(2) printing in field printing plants operated by an executive department, independent office or establishment, and the procurement of printing by an executive department, independent office or establishment from allotments for contract field printing, if approved by the Joint Committee on Printing.

Printing or binding may be done at the Government Publishing Office only when authorized by law.

(Pub. L. 90–620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1243; Pub. L. 113–235, div. H, title I, §1301(b), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537.)

**HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES**

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §111 and 116 (part) (Jan. 12, 1895, ch. 23, §§86, 87, 28 Stat. 662; Mar. 1, 1919, ch. 86, §11, 40 Stat. 1270; July 5, 1949, ch. 296, 63 Stat. 405).

This section incorporates only the first sentence of former section 116. The balance will be found in section 1123 of the revision.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

“Government Publishing Office” substituted for “Government Printing Office” in section catchline and text on authority of section 1301(b) of Pub. L. 113–235, set out as a note preceding section 301 of this title.

**VEGETABLE INK PRINTING**

Pub. L. 103–348, Oct. 6, 1994, 108 Stat. 3133, as amended by Pub. L. 113–235, div. H, title I, §1301(b), (d), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537, provided that:

**“SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

“This Act may be cited as the ‘Vegetable Ink Printing Act of 1994.’”

**“SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

“(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

“(1) More than 95 percent of Federal printing involving documents or publications is performed using lithographic inks.

“(2) Various types of oil, including petroleum and vegetable oil, are used in lithographic ink.

“(3) Increasing the amount of vegetable oil used in a lithographic ink would—

“(A) help reduce the Nation’s use of nonrenewable energy resources;

“(B) result in the use of products that are less damaging to the environment;

“(C) result in a reduction of volatile organic compound emissions; and

“(D) increase the use of renewable agricultural products.

“(4) The technology exists to use vegetable oil in lithographic ink and, in some applications, to use lithographic ink that uses no petroleum distillates in the liquid portion of the ink.

“(5) Some lithographic inks have contained vegetable oils for many years; other lithographic inks have more recently begun to use vegetable oil.

“(6) According to the Government Publishing Office, using vegetable oil-based ink appears to add little if any additional cost to Government printing.

“(7) Use of vegetable oil-based ink in Federal Government printing should further develop—

“(A) the commercial viability of vegetable oil-based ink, which could result in demand, for domestic use alone, for 2,500,000,000 pounds of vegetable crops or 500,000,000 pounds of vegetable oil; and

“(B) a product that could help the United States retain or enlarge its share of the world market for vegetable oil-ink.

“(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to require that all lithographic printing using ink containing oil that is performed or procured by a Federal agency shall use ink containing the maximum amounts of vegetable oil and materials derived from other renewable resources that—

“(1) are technologically feasible, and

“(2) result in printing costs that are competitive with printing using petroleum-based inks.

**“SEC. 3. FEDERAL PRINTING REQUIREMENTS.**

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—Notwithstanding any other law, and except as provided in subsection (b), a Federal agency may not perform or procure lithographic printing that uses ink containing oil if the ink contains less than the following percentage of vegetable oil:

“(1) In the case of news ink, 40 percent.

“(2) In the case of sheet-fed ink, 20 percent.

“(3) In the case of forms ink, 20 percent.

“(4) In the case of heat-set ink, 10 percent.

“(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(1) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to lithographic printing performed or procured by a Federal agency, if—

“(A) the head of the agency determines, after consultation with the Director of the Government Publishing Office and within the 3-year period ending on the date of the commencement of the printing or the date of that procurement, respectively, that vegetable oil-based ink is not suitable to meet specific, identified requirements of the agency related to the printing; or

“(B) the Director of the Government Publishing Office determines—

“(i) within the 3-month period ending on the date of the commencement of the printing, in the case of printing of materials that are printed at intervals of less than 6 months, or

“(ii) before the date of the commencement of the printing, in the case of printing of materials that are printed at intervals of 6 months or more; that the cost of performing the printing using vegetable oil-based ink is significantly greater than the cost of performing the printing using other available ink.

“(2) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after making a determination under paragraph (1)(A), the head of a Federal agency shall report the determination to the Committee on Government Operations [now Committee on Oversight and Government Reform] and the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Rules of the Senate.

“(c) FEDERAL AGENCY DEFINED.—In this Act, the term ‘Federal agency’ means—

“(1) an executive department, military department, Government corporation, Government-controlled corporation, or other establishment in the executive branch of the Government (including the Executive Office of the President), or any independent regulatory agency; and

“(2) an establishment or component of the legislative or judicial branch of the Government.”

**GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS: PRINTING; GPO PROCUREMENT; EXECUTIVE BRANCH PROCUREMENT OF CERTAIN KINDS OF PRINTING; “PRINTING” DEFINED**

Pub. L. 102–392, title II, §207(a), Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1719, as amended by Pub. L. 103–283, title II, §207, July

22, 1994, 108 Stat. 1440; Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XI, §1112(e)(1), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2683; Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title IX, §931(b)(4), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4575; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1301(b), (d), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537, provided that:

“(1) None of the funds appropriated for any fiscal year may be obligated or expended by any entity of the executive branch for the procurement of any printing related to the production of Government publications (including printed forms), unless such procurement is by or through the Government Publishing Office.

“(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to (A) individual printing orders costing not more than \$1,000, if the work is not of a continuing or repetitive nature, and, as certified by the Director of the Government Publishing Office, if the work is included in a class of work which cannot be provided more economically through the Government Publishing Office, (B) printing for the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, or the National Security Agency, or (C) printing from other sources that is specifically authorized by law.

“(3) As used in this section, the term ‘printing’ includes the processes of composition, platemaking, presswork, duplicating, silk screen processes, binding, microform, and the end items of such processes.”

Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

Pub. L. 101-520, title II, §206, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2274; repealed by Pub. L. 102-392, title II, §207(b), Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1720.

Pub. L. 101-163, title III, §308, Nov. 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1065.

Pub. L. 100-458, title III, §309, Oct. 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2184.

Pub. L. 100-202, §101(i) [title III, §309], Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329-310.

#### **§ 502. Procurement of printing, binding, and blank-book work by Director of the Government Publishing Office**

Printing, binding, and blank-book work authorized by law, which the Director of the Government Publishing Office is not able or equipped to do at the Government Publishing Office, may be produced elsewhere under contracts made by him with the approval of the Joint Committee on Printing.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1243; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1301(b), (c), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537.)

##### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §111a (Feb. 28, 1929, ch. 367, §1, 45 Stat. 1400).

##### AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-235, §1301(c), substituted “Director of the Government Publishing Office” for “Public Printer” in section catchline and text.

##### CHANGE OF NAME

“Government Publishing Office” substituted for “Government Printing Office” in text on authority of section 1301(b) of Pub. L. 113-235, set out as a note preceding section 301 of this title.

##### CONTRACT GOAL FOR DISADVANTAGED SMALL BUSINESSES IN PRINTING-RELATED SERVICES

Pub. L. 100-456, div. A, title VIII, §843, Sept. 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 2026, as amended by Pub. L. 101-574, title IV, §401, Nov. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 2832; Pub. L. 102-484, div. A, title VIII, §§801(h)(6), 806, Oct. 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 2445, 2448, required the Public Printer to establish and carry out a test program for increasing its award of contracts to small and disadvantaged businesses for the printing,

binding, and related services needed by the Department of Defense for solicitations issued before October 1, 2000.

#### **§ 503. Printing in veterans’ hospitals**

(a) Notwithstanding section 501 of this title, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may use the equipment described in subsection (b) for printing and binding that the Secretary finds advisable for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) The equipment referred to in subsection (a) is the printing and binding equipment that the various hospitals and homes of the Department of Veterans Affairs use for occupational therapy.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1243; Pub. L. 102-54, §13(r), June 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 282.)

##### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §111b (June 16, 1933, ch. 101, §1, 48 Stat. 302; Feb. 2, 1935, ch. 3, §1, 49 Stat. 18; Mar. 19, 1936, ch. 156, §1, 49 Stat. 1182).

##### AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-54 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “Notwithstanding section 501 of this title, the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs may utilize the printing and binding equipment that the various hospitals and homes of the Veterans’ Administration use for occupational therapy, for printing and binding which he finds advisable for the use of the Veterans’ Administration.”

#### **§ 504. Direct purchase of printing, binding, and blank-book work by Government agencies**

The Joint Committee on Printing may permit the Director of the Government Publishing Office to authorize an executive department, independent office, or establishment of the Government to purchase direct for its use such printing, binding, and blank-book work, otherwise authorized by law, as the Government Publishing Office is not able or suitably equipped to execute or as may be more economically or in the better interest of the Government executed elsewhere.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1243; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1301(b), (c)(1), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537.)

##### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §14 (Jan. 12, 1895, ch. 23, §12, 28 Stat. 602; July 8, 1935, ch. 374, §1, 49 Stat. 475; Oct. 31, 1951, ch. 654, §3(10), 65 Stat. 708).

##### AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-235, §1301(c)(1), substituted “Director of the Government Publishing Office” for “Public Printer”.

##### CHANGE OF NAME

“Government Publishing Office” substituted for “Government Printing Office” in text on authority of section 1301(b) of Pub. L. 113-235, set out as a note preceding section 301 of this title.

#### **§ 505. Sale of duplicate plates**

The Director of the Government Publishing Office shall sell, under regulations of the Joint Committee on Printing to persons who may apply, additional or duplicate stereotype or elec-