

**(b) Notice**

The producer making the assignment, or the assignee, shall provide the Secretary with notice, in such manner as the Secretary may require, of any assignment made under this section.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title I, §1611, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 710.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this title”, meaning title I of Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 649, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 9095. Tracking of benefits**

As soon as practicable after February 7, 2014, the Secretary may track the benefits provided, directly or indirectly, to individuals and entities under titles I and II and the amendments made by those titles.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title I, §1612, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 710.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Titles I and II, referred to in text, are titles I and II of Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658, 713. Title I of the Act is classified principally to this chapter. Title II of the Act enacted, amended, and repealed numerous sections and provisions set out as notes in Title 16, Conservation, and Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of titles I and II to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 9096. Signature authority****(a) In general**

In carrying out this title and title II and amendments made by those titles, if the Secretary approves a document, the Secretary shall not subsequently determine the document is inadequate or invalid because of the lack of authority of any person signing the document on behalf of the applicant or any other individual, entity, general partnership, or joint venture, or the documents relied upon were determined inadequate or invalid, unless the person signing the program document knowingly and willfully falsified the evidence of signature authority or a signature.

**(b) Affirmation****(1) In general**

Nothing in this section prohibits the Secretary from asking a proper party to affirm any document that otherwise would be considered approved under subsection (a).

**(2) No retroactive effect**

A denial of benefits based on a lack of affirmation under paragraph (1) shall not be retroactive with respect to third-party producers who were not the subject of the erroneous representation of authority, if the third-party producers—

(A) relied on the prior approval by the Secretary of the documents in good faith; and

(B) substantively complied with all program requirements.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title I, §1613, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 710.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This title and title II, referred to in subsec. (a), are titles I and II of Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658, 713. Title I of the Act is classified principally to this chapter. Title II of the Act enacted, amended, and repealed numerous sections and provisions set out as notes in Title 16, Conservation, and Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of titles I and II to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 9097. Implementation****(a) Maintenance of base acres and payment yields**

The Secretary shall maintain, for each covered commodity and upland cotton, base acres and payment yields on a farm established under sections 8702 and 8751 of this title, as adjusted pursuant to sections 8711, 8712, 8718, and 8752 of this title, as in effect on September 30, 2013, and as adjusted pursuant to sections 9012 and 9013 of this title.

**(b) Streamlining**

In implementing this chapter and the amendments made by this title,<sup>1</sup> the Secretary shall—

(1) continue to reduce administrative burdens and costs to producers by streamlining and reducing paperwork, forms, and other administrative requirements, to ensure that—

(A) a producer (or an agent of a producer) may report information, electronically (including geospatial data) or conventionally, to the Department of Agriculture, subject to the Secretary—

(i) establishing reasonable levels of tolerance that reflect the differences in accuracy between measures of common land units and geospatial data; and

(ii) ensuring that discrepancies that occur within the levels of tolerance established under clause (i) shall not be used to penalize a producer (or an agent of a producer) under any program administered by the Department of Agriculture;

(B) on the request of a producer (or an agent of a producer), the Department of Agriculture electronically shares with the producer (or agent) in real time and without cost to the producer (or agent) the common land unit data, related farm level data, conservation practices, and other information of the producer through a single Department of Agriculture-wide login;

(C) not later than September 30, 2020, the Administrator of the Risk Management Agency and the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency shall implement a consistent method for determining crop acreage, acreage yields, farm acreage, property descriptions, and other common informational requirements, including measures of common land units;

(D) except in the case of misrepresentation, fraud, or scheme and device, no crop insurance agent, approved insurance provider, or employee or contractor of a crop insurance agency or approved insurance provider bears responsibility or liability under the Acreage Crop Reporting and Streamlining

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