

§ 602. Declaration of policy; establishment of price basing period; marketing standards; orderly supply flow; circumstances for continued regulation

It is declared to be the policy of Congress—

(1) Through the exercise of the powers conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to establish and maintain such orderly marketing conditions for agricultural commodities in interstate commerce as will establish, as the prices to farmers, parity prices as defined by section 1301(a)(1) of this title.

(2) To protect the interest of the consumer by (a) approaching the level of prices which it is declared to be the policy of Congress to establish in subsection (1) of this section by gradual correction of the current level at as rapid a rate as the Secretary of Agriculture deems to be in the public interest and feasible in view of the current consumptive demand in domestic and foreign markets, and (b) authorizing no action under this chapter which has for its purpose the maintenance of prices to farmers above the level which it is declared to be the policy of Congress to establish in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Through the exercise of the powers conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to establish and maintain such production research, marketing research, and development projects provided in section 608c(6)(I) of this title, such container and pack requirements provided in section 608c(6)(H) of this title¹ such minimum standards of quality and maturity and such grading and inspection requirements for agricultural commodities enumerated in section 608c (2) of this title, other than milk and its products, in interstate commerce as will effectuate such orderly marketing of such agricultural commodities as will be in the public interest.

(4) Through the exercise of the powers conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to establish and maintain such orderly marketing conditions for any agricultural commodity enumerated in section 608c(2) of this title as will provide, in the interests of producers and consumers, an orderly flow of the supply thereof to market throughout its normal marketing season to avoid unreasonable fluctuations in supplies and prices.

(5) Through the exercise of the power conferred upon the Secretary of Agriculture under this chapter, to continue for the remainder of any marketing season or marketing year, such regulation pursuant to any order as will tend to avoid a disruption of the orderly marketing of any commodity and be in the public interest, if the regulation of such commodity under such order has been initiated during such marketing season or marketing year on the basis of its need to effectuate the policy of this chapter.

(May 12, 1933, ch. 25, title I, § 2, 48 Stat. 32; Aug. 24, 1935, ch. 641, §§ 1, 62, 49 Stat. 750, 782; June 3, 1937, ch. 296, §§ 1, 2(b), 50 Stat. 246, 247; Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 425, § 1, 61 Stat. 707; July 3, 1948, ch. 827,

title III, § 302(a), 62 Stat. 1257; Aug. 28, 1954, ch. 1041, title IV, § 401(a), 68 Stat. 906; Pub. L. 87-128, title I, § 141(1), Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 303; Pub. L. 89-330, § 1(a), Nov. 8, 1965, 79 Stat. 1270; Pub. L. 91-292, § 1(1), June 25, 1970, 84 Stat. 333.)

AMENDMENTS

1970—Subsec. (3). Pub. L. 91-292 inserted authority to establish and maintain the production research, marketing research, and development projects provided in section 608c(6)(I) of this title.

1965—Subsec. (3). Pub. L. 89-330 inserted “such container and pack requirements provided in section 608c(6)(H) of this title”.

1961—Subsec. (5). Pub. L. 87-128 added subsec. (5).

1954—Subsec. (4). Act Aug. 28, 1954, added subsec. (4).

1948—Subsec. (1). Act July 3, 1948, made definition of “parity” conform to definition stated in section 1301(a)(1) of this title.

1947—Subsec. (3). Act Aug. 1, 1947, added subsec. (3).

1937—Act June 3, 1937, inserted “orderly marketing conditions for agricultural commodities in interstate commerce as will establish” before “as the prices to farmers”.

1935—Subsec. (1). Act Aug. 24, 1935, ch. 641, § 1, amended first sentence and act Aug. 24, 1935, ch. 641, § 62, amended second and third sentences.

Subsec. (2). Act Aug. 24, 1935, amended subsec. (2).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1948 AMENDMENT

Amendment by act July 3, 1948, effective Jan. 1, 1950, see section 303 of act July 3, 1948, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

VALIDITY OF SECTION AFFIRMED

Section 1 of act June 3, 1937, affirmed and validated, and reenacted without change the provisions of this section except for the amendment to subsec. (1) by section 2 of said act. See note set out under section 601 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER II—COTTON OPTION CONTRACTS

§ 603. Government owned cotton; transfer to Secretary of Agriculture; powers of Secretary

The Farm Credit Administration and all departments and other agencies of the Government, not including the Federal intermediate credit banks are directed—

(a) To sell to the Secretary of Agriculture at such price as may be agreed upon, not in excess of the market price, all cotton now owned by them.

(b) To take such action and to make such settlements as are necessary in order to acquire full legal title to all cotton on which money has been loaned or advanced by any department or agency of the United States, including futures contracts for cotton or which is held as collateral for loans or advances and to make final settlement of such loans and advances as follows:

(1) In making such settlements with regard to cotton, including operations to which such cotton is related, such cotton shall be taken over by all such departments or agencies other than the Secretary of Agriculture at a price or sum equal to the amounts directly or indirectly loaned or advanced thereon and outstanding, including loans by the Government, department or agency and any loans senior thereto, plus any sums required to adjust advances to growers to 90 per centum of the value of their cotton at the date of its delivery

¹ So in original. Probably should be followed by a comma.