

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [May 13, 2002], the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

“(1) barriers to efficient and competitive transportation of inputs and products by geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers; and

“(2) means of encouraging and assisting geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers—

“(A) to own and operate farms and ranches; and

“(B) to participate equitably in the full range of agricultural programs offered by the Department of Agriculture.”

REVIEW OF OPERATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE PROGRAMS ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND

Pub. L. 107-171, title X, § 10910, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 539, provided that:

“(a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the ‘Secretary’) shall conduct a review of the operation of agricultural and natural resource programs available to farmers and ranchers operating on tribal and trust land, including—

“(1) agricultural commodity, price support, and farm income support programs (collectively referred to in this section as ‘agricultural commodity programs’);

“(2) conservation programs (including financial and technical assistance);

“(3) agricultural credit programs;

“(4) rural development programs; and

“(5) forestry programs.

“(b) CRITERIA FOR REVIEW.—In carrying out the review under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider—

“(1) the extent to which agricultural commodity programs and conservation programs are consistent with tribal goals and priorities regarding the sustainable use of agricultural land;

“(2) strategies for increasing tribal participation in agricultural commodity programs and conservation programs;

“(3) the educational and training opportunities available to Indian tribes and members of Indian tribes in the practical, technical, and professional aspects of agriculture and land management; and

“(4) the development and management of agricultural land under the jurisdiction of Indian tribes in accordance with integrated resource management plans that—

“(A) ensure proper management of the land;

“(B) produce increased economic returns;

“(C) promote employment opportunities; and

“(D) improve the social and economic well-being of Indian tribes and members of Indian tribes.

“(c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with—

“(1) the Secretary of the Interior;

“(2) local officers and employees of the Department of Agriculture; and

“(3) program recipients.

“(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [May 13, 2002], the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that contains—

“(1) a description of the results of the review conducted under this section;

“(2) recommendations for program improvements; and

“(3) a description of actions that will be taken to carry out the improvements.”

AVIATION INSPECTIONS

Pub. L. 103-354, title III, § 306, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3241, provided that:

“(a) STUDY OF AIRCRAFT INSPECTIONS.—

“(1) INTENT OF STUDY.—The intent of the study required by this subsection is to examine the cost effi-

ciencies of conducting inspections of aircraft and pilots by one Federal agency without reducing aircraft, passenger, or pilot safety standards or lowering mission preparedness.

“(2) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Transportation shall jointly conduct a study of the inspection specifications and procedures by which aircraft and pilots contracted by the Department are certified to determine the cost efficiencies of eliminating duplicative Department inspection requirements and transferring some or all inspection requirements to the Federal Aviation Administration, while ensuring that neither aircraft, passenger, nor pilot safety is reduced and that mission preparedness is maintained.

“(3) SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the study, the Secretaries shall evaluate current inspection specifications and procedures mandated by the Department and the Forest Service, taking into consideration the unique requirements and risks of particular Department and Forest Service missions that may require special inspection specifications and procedures to ensure the safety of Department and Forest Service personnel and their contractees.

“(4) MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS AND PREPAREDNESS.—In making recommendations to transfer inspection authority or otherwise change Department inspection specifications and procedures, the Secretaries shall ensure that the implementation of any such recommendations does not lower aircraft or pilot standards or preparedness for Department or Forest Service missions.

“(5) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 13, 1994], the Secretaries shall submit to Congress the results of the study, including any recommendations to transfer inspection authority or otherwise change Department inspection specifications and procedures and a cost-benefit analysis of such recommendations.

“(b) REVIEW OF RECENTLY ADOPTED AIRCRAFT POLICY.—

“(1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretaries shall review the policy initiated by the Secretary of Agriculture on July 1, 1994, to accept Federal Aviation Administration inspections on aircraft and pilots that provide ‘airport to airport’ service for the Forest Service. The policy is currently being cooperatively developed by the Department and the Federal Aviation Administration and is intended to reduce duplicative inspections and to reduce Government costs, while maintaining aircraft, passenger, and pilot safety standards, specifications and procedures currently required by the Department and the Forest Service.

“(2) EXPANSION OF POLICY.—As part of the review, the Secretaries shall examine the feasibility and desirability of applying this policy on a Government-wide basis.

“(3) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the implementation of the policy, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress the results of the review, including any recommendations that the Secretary considers appropriate.”

ORDER OF SUCCESSION

For order of succession during any period when both Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture are unable to perform functions and duties of office of Secretary, see Ex. Ord. No. 13542, May 13, 2010, 75 F.R. 27921, listed in a table under section 3345 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 2204-1. Delegation of regulatory functions of Secretary of Agriculture; definitions

As used in sections 2204-1 to 2204-5 of this title—

(a) The term “regulatory order” means an order, marketing agreement, standard, permit,

license, registration, suspension or revocation of a permit, license, or registration, certificate, award, rule or regulation, if it has the force and effect of law, and if it may be made, prescribed, issued, or promulgated only after notice and hearing or opportunity for hearing have been given.

(b) The term "regulatory function" means the making, prescribing, issuing, or promulgating of a regulatory order; and includes (1) determining whether such making, prescribing, issuing, or promulgating is authorized or required by law, and (2) any action which is required or authorized to be performed before, after, or in connection with, such determining, making, prescribing, issuing, or promulgating. (Apr. 4, 1940, ch. 75, §1, 54 Stat. 81.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 450c of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section, and to section 516a of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

§ 2204-2. Delegation of regulatory functions to designated employees; status of employees; number; revocation of delegation

Whenever the Secretary of Agriculture deems that the delegation of the whole or any part of any regulatory function which the Secretary is, now or after April 4, 1940, required or authorized to perform will result in the more expeditious discharge of the duties of the Department of Agriculture, he is authorized to make such delegation to any officer or employee designated under this section. The Secretary is authorized to designate officers or employees of the Department to whom functions may be delegated under this section and to assign appropriate titles to such officers or employees. There shall not be in the Department at any one time more than two officers or employees designated under this section and vested with a regulatory function or part thereof delegated under this section. The Secretary may at any time revoke the whole or any part of a delegation or designation made by him under this section.

(Apr. 4, 1940, ch. 75, §2, 54 Stat. 81; Pub. L. 89-554, §8(a), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 632, 650.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 450d of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section, and to section 516b of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

AMENDMENTS

1966—Pub. L. 89-554 repealed third sentence which related to grade of a position. See section 5109 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 2204-3. Authority of designated employees; retroactive revocation of delegation

Whenever a delegation is made under section 2204-2 of this title, all provisions of law shall be construed as if the regulatory function or the part thereof delegated had (to the extent of the

delegation) been vested by law in the individual to whom the delegation is made, instead of in the Secretary of Agriculture. A revocation of delegation shall not be retroactive, and each regulatory function or part thereof performed (within the scope of the delegation) by such individual prior to the revocation shall be considered as having been performed by the Secretary. (Apr. 4, 1940, ch. 75, §3, 54 Stat. 82.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 450e of this title prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section, and to section 516c of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

§ 2204-4. Delegation of functions under other laws as unaffected

The provisions of section 2204-2 of this title shall not be deemed to prohibit the delegation, under authority of any other provision of law, of the whole or any part of any regulatory function or other function to any officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture.

(Apr. 4, 1940, ch. 75, §4, 54 Stat. 82.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 450f of this title prior to editorial reclassification as this section, and to section 516d of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

§ 2204-5. Authorization of appropriations for cooperative research projects

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of sections 2204-1 to 2204-5 of this title.

(Apr. 4, 1940, ch. 75, §5, 54 Stat. 82.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 450g of this title prior to editorial reclassification as this section, and to section 516e of Title 5 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, by Pub. L. 89-554, §1, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 378.

§ 2204a. Rural development; utilization of non-Federal offices; location of field units; interchange of personnel and facilities

The Secretary of Agriculture shall utilize to the maximum extent practicable State, regional, district, county, local, or other Department of Agriculture offices to enhance rural development, and shall to the maximum extent practicable provide directly, or, in the case of agencies outside of the Department of Agriculture, through arrangements with the heads of such agencies, for—

(1) the location of all field units of the Federal Government concerned with rural development in the appropriate Department of Agriculture offices covering the geographical areas most similar to those covered by such field units, and

(2) the interchange of personnel and facilities in each such office to the extent necessary