

tronic funds transfer, or any other expeditious method determined appropriate by the Secretary or place a check in the United States mail for the full amount of the purchase price, properly addressed to the seller, within the time limits specified in this subsection, such action being deemed compliance with the requirement for prompt payment.

**(b) Waiver of prompt payment by written agreement; disclosure requirements**

Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, the parties to the purchase and sale of livestock may expressly agree in writing, before such purchase or sale, to effect payment in a manner other than that required in subsection (a). Any such agreement shall be disclosed in the records of any market agency or dealer selling the livestock, and in the purchaser's records and on the accounts or other documents issued by the purchaser relating to the transaction.

**(c) Delay in payment or attempt to delay deemed unfair practice**

Any delay or attempt to delay by a market agency, dealer, or packer purchasing livestock, the collection of funds as herein provided, or otherwise for the purpose of or resulting in extending the normal period of payment for such livestock shall be considered an "unfair practice" in violation of this chapter. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit the meaning of the term "unfair practice" as used in this chapter.

(Aug. 15, 1921, ch. 64, title IV, § 409, as added Pub. L. 94-410, § 7, Sept. 13, 1976, 90 Stat. 1250; amended Pub. L. 114-237, § 3, Oct. 7, 2016, 130 Stat. 970.)

AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 114-237, § 3, substituted "shall transfer funds for the full amount of the purchase price to the account of the seller by wire, electronic funds transfer, or any other expeditious method determined appropriate by the Secretary" for "shall wire transfer funds to the seller's account" in two places in first proviso and "or dealer shall transfer funds for the full amount of the purchase price by wire, electronic funds transfer, or any other expeditious method determined appropriate by the Secretary" for "or dealer shall wire transfer funds" in second proviso.

**§ 228b-1. Final date for making payment to cash seller or poultry grower**

**(a) Delivery of full amount due**

Each live poultry dealer obtaining live poultry by purchase in a cash sale shall, before the close of the next business day following the purchase of poultry, and each live poultry dealer obtaining live poultry under a poultry growing arrangement shall, before the close of the fifteenth day following the week in which the poultry is slaughtered, deliver, to the cash seller or poultry grower from whom such live poultry dealer obtains the poultry, the full amount due to such cash seller or poultry grower on account of such poultry.

**(b) Delay or attempt to delay collection of funds as "unfair practice"**

Any delay or attempt to delay, by a live poultry dealer which is a party to any such trans-

action, the collection of funds as herein provided, or otherwise for the purpose of or resulting in extending the normal period of payment for poultry obtained by poultry growing arrangement or purchased in a cash sale, shall be considered an "unfair practice" in violation of this chapter. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit the meaning of the term "unfair practice" as used in this chapter.

**(c) Definition of cash sale**

For the purpose of this section, a cash sale means a sale in which the seller does not expressly extend credit to the buyer.

(Aug. 15, 1921, ch. 64, title IV, § 410, as added Pub. L. 100-173, § 9(2), Nov. 23, 1987, 101 Stat. 920.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 410 of act Aug. 15, 1921, was renumbered section 414 and is classified to section 228c of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 90 days after Nov. 23, 1987, see section 12 of Pub. L. 100-173, set out as an Effective Date of 1987 Amendment note under section 182 of this title.

**§ 228b-2. Violations by live poultry dealers**

**(a) Written complaint by Secretary; hearing; intervention; amended complaint**

Whenever the Secretary has reason to believe that any live poultry dealer has violated or is violating any provision of section 197 of this title or section 228b-1 of this title, he shall cause a complaint in writing to be served upon the live poultry dealer, stating his charges in that respect, and requiring the live poultry dealer to attend and testify at a hearing at a time and place designated therein, at least 30 days after the service of such complaint; and at such time and place there shall be afforded the live poultry dealer a reasonable opportunity to be informed as to the evidence introduced against him (including the right of cross-examination), and to be heard in person or by counsel and through witnesses, under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe. Any person for good cause shown may, on application, be allowed by the Secretary to intervene in such proceeding, and appear in person or by counsel. At any time prior to the close of the hearing, the Secretary may amend the complaint; but in case of any amendment adding new charges, the hearing shall, on the request of the live poultry dealer, be adjourned for a period not exceeding 15 days.

**(b) Report on findings of fact by Secretary; cease and desist order; assessment of civil penalty; action by Attorney General upon live poultry dealer's failure to pay penalty**

If, after such hearing, the Secretary finds that the live poultry dealer has violated, or is violating, any provisions of section 197 of this title or section 228b-1 of this title covered by the charges, he shall make a report in writing in which he shall state his findings as to the facts, and shall issue and cause to be served on the live poultry dealer an order requiring such live poultry dealer to cease and desist from continuing such violation. The testimony taken at the hearing shall be reduced to writing and filed in

the records of the Department of Agriculture. The Secretary may also assess a civil penalty of not more than \$20,000 for each such violation. In determining the amount of the civil penalty to be assessed under this section, the Secretary shall consider the gravity of the offense, the size of the business involved, and the effect of the penalty on the person's ability to continue in business: *Provided, however*, That in no event can the penalty assessed by the Secretary take priority over or impede the ability of the live poultry dealer to pay any unpaid cash seller or poultry grower. If, after the lapse of the period allowed for appeal or after the affirmance of such penalty, the person against whom the civil penalty is assessed fails to pay such penalty, the Secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General, who may recover such penalty by an action in the appropriate District Court of the United States.

**(c) Amendment or setting aside of report or order**

Until the record in such hearing has been filed in a court of appeals of the United States, as provided in section 228b-3 of this title, the Secretary, at any time, upon such notice and in such manner as he deems proper, but only after reasonable opportunity to the live poultry dealer to be heard, may amend or set aside the report or order, in whole or in part.

**(d) Service of complaints, orders, and other processes**

Complaints, orders, and other processes of the Secretary under this section may be served in the same manner as provided in section 45 of title 15.

(Aug. 15, 1921, ch. 64, title IV, § 411, as added Pub. L. 100-173, § 9(2), Nov. 23, 1987, 101 Stat. 920.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 411 of act Aug. 15, 1921, was renumbered section 417 and is classified to section 229c of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 90 days after Nov. 23, 1987, see section 12 of Pub. L. 100-173, set out as an Effective Date of 1987 Amendment note under section 182 of this title.

**§ 228b-3. Judicial review of order regarding live poultry dealer**

**(a) Finality of order unless appeal to court of appeals; time limit; bond**

An order made under section 228b-2 of this title shall be final and conclusive unless within 30 days after service the live poultry dealer appeals to the court of appeals for the circuit in which he has his principal place of business, by filing with the clerk of such court a written petition praying that the Secretary's order be set aside or modified in the manner stated in the petition, together with a bond in such sum as the court may determine, conditioned that such live poultry dealer will pay the costs of the proceedings if the court so directs.

**(b) Notification of appeal to Secretary; filing of record with court**

The clerk of the court shall immediately cause a copy of the petition to be delivered to the Sec-

retary, and the Secretary shall thereupon file in the court the record in such proceedings, as provided in section 2112 of title 28. If before such record is filed the Secretary amends or sets aside his report or order, in whole or in part, the petitioner may amend the petition within such time as the court may determine, on notice to the Secretary.

**(c) Issuance of temporary injunction**

At any time after such petition is filed, the court, on application of the Secretary, may issue a temporary injunction, restraining, to the extent it deems proper, the live poultry dealer and his officers, directors, agents, and employees, from violating any of the provisions of the order pending the final determination of the appeal.

**(d) Evidence in record as evidence in case; expedited proceedings**

The evidence so taken or admitted, and filed as aforesaid as a part of the record, shall be considered by the court as the evidence in the case. The proceedings in such cases in the court of appeals shall be made a preferred cause and shall be expedited in every way.

**(e) Action by court**

The court may affirm, modify, or set aside the order of the Secretary.

**(f) Taking of additional evidence; modified or additional findings by Secretary**

If the court determines that the just and proper disposition of the case requires the taking of additional evidence, the court shall order the hearing to be reopened for the taking of such evidence, in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as the court may deem proper. The Secretary may modify his findings as to the facts, or make new findings, by reason of the additional evidence so taken, and he shall file such modified or new findings and his recommendations, if any, for the modification or setting aside of his order, with the return of such additional evidence.

**(g) Affirmance or modification of order as injunction**

If the court of appeals affirms or modifies the order of the Secretary, its decree shall operate as an injunction to restrain the live poultry dealer, and his officers, directors, agents, and employees from violating the provisions of such order or such order as modified.

**(h) Exclusive jurisdiction of court of appeals; finality of decree; appeal to Supreme Court; stay of decree**

The court of appeals shall have jurisdiction which upon the filing of the record with it shall be exclusive, to review, and to affirm, set aside, or modify, such orders of the Secretary, and the decree of such court shall be final except that it shall be subject to review by the Supreme Court of the United States upon certiorari, as provided in section 1254 of title 28, if such writ is duly applied for within 60 days after entry of the decree. The issue of such writ shall not operate as a stay of the decree of the court of appeals, insofar as such decree operates as an injunction, unless so ordered by the Supreme Court.