

ployment history of, and publicly adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against, loan originators that is included in Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry for access by the public.

(Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title V, § 1512, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2820; Pub. L. 111-203, title X, § 1100(3), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2106; Pub. L. 114-113, div. O, title VII, § 703, Dec. 18, 2015, 129 Stat. 3025.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 114-113 inserted “or financial services” before “industry”.

2010—Subsecs. (a), (b)(2). Pub. L. 111-203 substituted “Director” for “Secretary”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

### § 5112. Liability provisions

The Bureau, any State official or agency, or any organization serving as the administrator of the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry or a system established by the Director under section 5108 of this title, or any officer or employee of any such entity, shall not be subject to any civil action or proceeding for monetary damages by reason of the good faith action or omission of any officer or employee of any such entity, while acting within the scope of office or employment, relating to the collection, furnishing, or dissemination of information concerning persons who—

(1) have applied, are applying, or are licensed or registered through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry; and

(2) work in an industry with respect to which persons were licensed or registered through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry on May 24, 2018.

(Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title V, § 1513, as added Pub. L. 111-203, title X, § 1100(8), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2107; amended Pub. L. 115-174, title I, § 106(c), May 24, 2018, 132 Stat. 1304.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 5112, Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title V, § 1513, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2820, which barred liability for good faith actions or omissions by certain entities’ officers or employees, was repealed by Pub. L. 111-203, title X, § 1100(8), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2107.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-174 substituted “persons who—” for “persons who are loan originators or are applying for licensing or registration as loan originators.” and added pars. (1) and (2).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 115-174, title I, § 106(d), May 24, 2018, 132 Stat. 1304, provided that: “This section [enacting section 5117 of this title and amending this section] and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date that is 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act [May 24, 2018].”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as an Effective

Date of 2010 Amendment note under section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

### § 5113. Enforcement by the Bureau

#### (a) Summons authority

The Director may—

(1) examine any books, papers, records, or other data of any loan originator operating in any State which is subject to a licensing system established by the Director under section 5107 of this title; and

(2) summon any loan originator referred to in paragraph (1) or any person having possession, custody, or care of the reports and records relating to such loan originator, to appear before the Director or any delegate of the Director at a time and place named in the summons and to produce such books, papers, records, or other data, and to give testimony, under oath, as may be relevant or material to an investigation of such loan originator for compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

#### (b) Examination authority

##### (1) In general

If the Director establishes a licensing system under section 5107 of this title for any State, the Director shall appoint examiners for the purposes of administering such section.

##### (2) Power to examine

Any examiner appointed under paragraph (1) shall have power, on behalf of the Director, to make any examination of any loan originator operating in any State which is subject to a licensing system established by the Director under section 5107 of this title whenever the Director determines an examination of any loan originator is necessary to determine the compliance by the originator with this chapter.

##### (3) Report of examination

Each examiner appointed under paragraph (1) shall make a full and detailed report of examination of any loan originator examined to the Director.

##### (4) Administration of oaths and affirmations; evidence

In connection with examinations of loan originators operating in any State which is subject to a licensing system established by the Director under section 5107 of this title, or with other types of investigations to determine compliance with applicable law and regulations, the Director and examiners appointed by the Director may administer oaths and affirmations and examine and take and preserve testimony under oath as to any matter in respect to the affairs of any such loan originator.

##### (5) Assessments

The cost of conducting any examination of any loan originator operating in any State which is subject to a licensing system established by the Director under section 5107 of this title shall be assessed by the Director against the loan originator to meet the Sec-

retary's<sup>1</sup> expenses in carrying out such examination.

**(c) Cease and desist proceeding**

**(1) Authority of Director**

If the Director finds, after notice and opportunity for hearing, that any person is violating, has violated, or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, or any regulation thereunder, with respect to a State which is subject to a licensing system established by the Director under section 5107 of this title, the Director may publish such findings and enter an order requiring such person, and any other person that is, was, or would be a cause of the violation, due to an act or omission the person knew or should have known would contribute to such violation, to cease and desist from committing or causing such violation and any future violation of the same provision, rule, or regulation. Such order may, in addition to requiring a person to cease and desist from committing or causing a violation, require such person to comply, or to take steps to effect compliance, with such provision or regulation, upon such terms and conditions and within such time as the Director may specify in such order. Any such order may, as the Director deems appropriate, require future compliance or steps to effect future compliance, either permanently or for such period of time as the Director may specify, with such provision or regulation with respect to any loan originator.

**(2) Hearing**

The notice instituting proceedings pursuant to paragraph (1) shall fix a hearing date not earlier than 30 days nor later than 60 days after service of the notice unless an earlier or a later date is set by the Director with the consent of any respondent so served.

**(3) Temporary order**

Whenever the Director determines that the alleged violation or threatened violation specified in the notice instituting proceedings pursuant to paragraph (1), or the continuation thereof, is likely to result in significant dissipation or conversion of assets, significant harm to consumers, or substantial harm to the public interest prior to the completion of the proceedings, the Director may enter a temporary order requiring the respondent to cease and desist from the violation or threatened violation and to take such action to prevent the violation or threatened violation and to prevent dissipation or conversion of assets, significant harm to consumers, or substantial harm to the public interest as the Director deems appropriate pending completion of such proceedings. Such an order shall be entered only after notice and opportunity for a hearing, unless the Director determines that notice and hearing prior to entry would be impracticable or contrary to the public interest. A temporary order shall become effective upon service upon the respondent and, unless set aside, limited, or suspended by the Director or a court of competent jurisdiction, shall re-

main effective and enforceable pending the completion of the proceedings.

**(4) Review of temporary orders**

**(A) Review by Director**

At any time after the respondent has been served with a temporary cease and desist order pursuant to paragraph (3), the respondent may apply to the Director to have the order set aside, limited, or suspended. If the respondent has been served with a temporary cease and desist order entered without a prior hearing before the Director, the respondent may, within 10 days after the date on which the order was served, request a hearing on such application and the Director shall hold a hearing and render a decision on such application at the earliest possible time.

**(B) Judicial review**

Within—

(i) 10 days after the date the respondent was served with a temporary cease and desist order entered with a prior hearing before the Director; or

(ii) 10 days after the Director renders a decision on an application and hearing under paragraph (1), with respect to any temporary cease and desist order entered without a prior hearing before the Director,

the respondent may apply to the United States district court for the district in which the respondent resides or has its principal place of business, or for the District of Columbia, for an order setting aside, limiting, or suspending the effectiveness or enforcement of the order, and the court shall have jurisdiction to enter such an order. A respondent served with a temporary cease and desist order entered without a prior hearing before the Director may not apply to the court except after hearing and decision by the Director on the respondent's application under subparagraph (A).

**(C) No automatic stay of temporary order**

The commencement of proceedings under subparagraph (B) shall not, unless specifically ordered by the court, operate as a stay of the Secretary's<sup>1</sup> order.

**(5) Authority of the Director to prohibit persons from serving as loan originators**

In any cease and desist proceeding under paragraph (1), the Director may issue an order to prohibit, conditionally or unconditionally, and permanently or for such period of time as the Director shall determine, any person who has violated this chapter or regulations thereunder, from acting as a loan originator if the conduct of that person demonstrates unfitness to serve as a loan originator.

**(d) Authority of the Director to assess money penalties**

**(1) In general**

The Director may impose a civil penalty on a loan originator operating in any State which is subject to a licensing system established by the Director under section 5107 of this title, if

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be "Director's".

the Director finds, on the record after notice and opportunity for hearing, that such loan originator has violated or failed to comply with any requirement of this chapter or any regulation prescribed by the Director under this chapter or order issued under subsection (c).

**(2) Maximum amount of penalty**

The maximum amount of penalty for each act or omission described in paragraph (1) shall be \$25,000.

(Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title V, §1514, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2821; Pub. L. 111-203, title X, §1100(3), (9), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2106, 2107.)

AMENDMENTS

Pub. L. 111-203 substituted “by the Bureau” for “under HUD backup licensing system” in section catchline and “Director” for “Secretary” wherever appearing in text.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

**§ 5114. State examination authority**

In addition to any authority allowed under State law a State licensing agency shall have the authority to conduct investigations and examinations as follows:

(1) For the purposes of investigating violations or complaints arising under this chapter, or for the purposes of examination, the State licensing agency may review, investigate, or examine any loan originator licensed or required to be licensed under this chapter, as often as necessary in order to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(2) Each such loan originator shall make available upon request to the State licensing agency the books and records relating to the operations of such originator. The State licensing agency may have access to such books and records and interview the officers, principals, loan originators, employees, independent contractors, agents, and customers of the licensee concerning their business.

(3) The authority of this section shall remain in effect, whether such a loan originator acts or claims to act under any licensing or registration law of such State, or claims to act without such authority.

(4) No person subject to investigation or examination under this section may knowingly withhold, abstract, remove, mutilate, destroy, or secrete any books, records, computer records, or other information.

(Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title V, §1515, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2823.)

**§ 5115. Reports and recommendations to Congress**

**(a) Annual reports**

Not later than 1 year after July 30, 2008, and annually thereafter, the Director shall submit a report to Congress on the effectiveness of the provisions of this chapter, including legislative

recommendations, if any, for strengthening consumer protections, enhancing examination standards, streamlining communication between all stakeholders involved in residential mortgage loan origination and processing, and establishing performance based bonding requirements for mortgage originators or institutions that employ such brokers.

**(b) Legislative recommendations**

Not later than 6 months after July 30, 2008, the Director shall make recommendations to Congress on legislative reforms to the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 [12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.], that the Director deems appropriate to promote more transparent disclosures, allowing consumers to better shop and compare mortgage loan terms and settlement costs.

(Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title V, §1516, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2824; Pub. L. 111-203, title X, §1100(3), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2106.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974, referred to in subsec. (b), is Pub. L. 93-533, Dec. 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 1724, which is classified principally to chapter 27 (§2601 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2601 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-203 substituted “Director” for “Secretary” wherever appearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

**§ 5116. Study and reports on defaults and foreclosures**

**(a) Study required**

The Director shall conduct an extensive study of the root causes of default and foreclosure of home loans, using as much empirical data as is available.

**(b) Preliminary report to Congress**

Not later than 6 months after July 30, 2008, the Director shall submit to Congress a preliminary report regarding the study required by this section.

**(c) Final report to Congress**

Not later than 12 months after July 30, 2008, the Director shall submit to Congress a final report regarding the results of the study required by this section, which shall include any recommended legislation relating to the study, and recommendations for best practices and for a process to provide targeted assistance to populations with the highest risk of potential default or foreclosure.

(Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title V, §1517, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2824; Pub. L. 111-203, title X, §1100(3), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2106.)

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-203 substituted “Director” for “Secretary” wherever appearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L.