

**(c) Criminal penalties**

(1) Whoever knowingly certifies, marks, offers for sale, or sells a fastener in violation of this chapter or a regulation under this chapter shall be fined under title 18, or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

(2) Whoever intentionally fails to maintain records relating to a fastener in violation of this chapter or a regulation under this chapter shall be fined under title 18, or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

(3) Whoever negligently fails to maintain records relating to a fastener in violation of this chapter or a regulation under this chapter shall be fined under title 18, or imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.

**(d) Enforcement**

(1) The Secretary may designate officers or employees of the Department of Commerce to conduct investigations pursuant to this chapter. In conducting such investigations, those officers or employees may, to the extent necessary or appropriate to the enforcement of this chapter, exercise such authorities as are conferred upon them by other laws of the United States, subject to policies and procedures approved by the Attorney General.

(2) The Secretary shall establish and maintain a hotline system to facilitate the reporting of alleged violations of this chapter, and the Secretary shall evaluate allegations reported through that system and report any credible allegations to the Attorney General.

(Pub. L. 101-592, § 6, formerly § 9, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2950; Pub. L. 104-113, § 11(g), Mar. 7, 1996, 110 Stat. 782; renumbered § 6 and amended Pub. L. 106-34, § 6, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 122.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 6 of Pub. L. 101-592 was classified to section 5405 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 106-34.

## AMENDMENTS

1999—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 106-34, § 6(1), substituted “of this subsection” for “of this section”.

Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 106-34, § 6(2), inserted “arbitrate,” after “Secretary may”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 106-34, § 6(3), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

1996—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 104-113 added subsec. (d).

**§ 5409. Recordkeeping requirements**

Manufacturers and importers shall retain the record of conformance for fasteners for 5 years, on paper or in photographic or electronic format in a manner that allows for verification of authenticity. Upon request of a distributor who has purchased a fastener, or a person who has purchased a fastener for use in the production of a commercial product, the manufacturer or importer of the fastener shall make available information in the record of conformance to the requester.

(Pub. L. 101-592, § 7, formerly § 10, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2951; Pub. L. 104-113, § 11(h), Mar. 7, 1996, 110 Stat. 782; renumbered § 7 and amended Pub. L. 106-34, § 7, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7 of Pub. L. 101-592 was classified to section 5406 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 106-34.

## AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-34 substituted present provisions for former provisions which consisted of subsecs. (a) and (b) relating to retention and availability of records concerning inspections, testing, and certifications of fasteners under section 5404 of this title by laboratories, manufacturers, importers, private label distributors and persons who make significant alterations.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-113, § 11(h)(1), substituted “5 years” for “10 years”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-113, § 11(h), substituted “5 years” for “10 years” and “the subsequent purchaser” for “any subsequent purchaser”.

**§ 5410. Relationship to State laws**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to preempt any rights or causes of action that any buyer may have with respect to any seller of fasteners under the law of any State, except to the extent that the provisions of this chapter are in conflict with such State law.

(Pub. L. 101-592, § 8, formerly § 11, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2952; renumbered § 8, Pub. L. 106-34, § 8, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8 of Pub. L. 101-592 was renumbered section 5 and is classified to section 5407 of this title.

**§ 5411. Construction**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit or otherwise affect the authority of any consensus standards organization to establish, modify, or withdraw any standards and specifications under any other law or authority.

(Pub. L. 101-592, § 9, formerly § 12, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2952; renumbered § 9 and amended Pub. L. 106-34, § 9, June 8, 1999, 113 Stat. 123.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 9 of Pub. L. 101-592 was renumbered section 6 and is classified to section 5408 of this title.

## AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-34 struck out “in effect on November 16, 1990” after “law or authority”.

**§ 5411a. Certification and accreditation****(a) Certification**

A person publishing a document setting forth guidance or requirements for the certification of manufacturing systems as fastener quality assurance systems by an accredited third party may petition the Director to approve such document for use as described in section 5402(7)(B)(iii)(I) of this title. The Director shall act upon a petition within 180 days after its filing, and shall approve such petition if the document provides equal or greater rigor and reliability as compared to ISO/IEC Guide 62.

**(b) Accreditation**

A person publishing a document setting forth guidance or requirements for the approval of accreditation bodies to accredit third parties described in subsection (a) may petition the Director to approve such document for use as described in section 5402(7)(B)(iii)(I) of this title. The Director shall act upon a petition within 180 days after its filing, and shall approve such petition if the document provides equal or greater