

1980—Pub. L. 96-187, title II, §201(a)(2), Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1367, struck out item 591 “Definitions”.

1976—Pub. L. 94-453, §2, Oct. 2, 1976, 90 Stat. 1517, substituted “political contribution” for “political activity” in item 601.

Pub. L. 94-283 title II, §201(b), May 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 496, struck out items “608. Limitations on contributions and expenditures”, “610. Contributions or expenditures by national banks, corporations or labor organizations”, “611. Contributions by Government contractors”, “612. Publication or distribution of political statements”, “613. Contributions by foreign nationals”, “614. Prohibition of contributions in name of another”, “615. Limitation on contributions of currency”, “616. Acceptance of excessive honorariums”, and “617. Fraudulent misrepresentation of campaign authority”.

1974—Pub. L. 93-443, title I, §101(d)(4)(B), (f)(3), Oct. 15, 1974, 88 Stat. 1267, 1268, substituted “Contributions by foreign nationals” for “Contributions by agents of foreign principals” in item 613, and added items 614 to 617.

1972—Pub. L. 92-225, title II, §207, Feb. 7, 1972, 86 Stat. 11, substituted “contributions and expenditures” for “political contributions and purchases” in item 608, “Repealed” for “Maximum contributions and expenditures” in item 609, and “Government contractors” for “firms or individuals contracting with the United States” in item 611.

1966—Pub. L. 89-486, §8(c)(1), July 4, 1966, 80 Stat. 249, added item 613.

STATE LAWS AFFECTED; DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 93-443, title I, §104, Oct. 15, 1974, 88 Stat. 1272, provided that:

“(a) The provisions of chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, relating to elections and political activities, supersede and preempt any provision of State law with respect to election to Federal office.

“(b) For purposes of this section, the terms ‘election’, ‘Federal office’, and ‘State’ have the meanings given them by section 591 of title 18, United States Code.”

[§ 591. Repealed. Pub. L. 96-187, title II, § 201(a)(1), Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1367]

Section, acts June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 719; May 24, 1949, ch. 139, §9, 63 Stat. 90; Sept. 22, 1970, Pub. L. 91-405, title II, §204(d)(4), 84 Stat. 853; Feb. 7, 1972, Pub. L. 92-225, title II, §201, 86 Stat. 8; Oct. 15, 1974, Pub. L. 93-443, title I, §§101(f)(2), 102, 88 Stat. 1268, 1269; May 11, 1976, Pub. L. 94-283, title I, §115(g), title II, §202, 90 Stat. 496, 497, defined terms applicable to prohibitions respecting elections and political activities.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Jan. 8, 1980, see section 301(a) of Pub. L. 96-187, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 30101 of Title 52, Voting and Elections.

§ 592. Troops at polls

Whoever, being an officer of the Army or Navy, or other person in the civil, military, or naval service of the United States, orders, brings, keeps, or has under his authority or control any troops or armed men at any place where a general or special election is held, unless such force be necessary to repel armed enemies of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both; and be disqualified from holding any office of honor, profit, or trust under the United States.

This section shall not prevent any officer or member of the armed forces of the United States from exercising the right of suffrage in any election district to which he may belong, if otherwise qualified according to the laws of the State in which he offers to vote.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 719; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., §§55 and 59 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, §§22, 26, 35 Stat. 1092, 1093).

This section consolidates sections 55 and 59 of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed.

Mandatory punishment provision was rephrased in the alternative.

In second paragraph, words “or member of the Armed Forces of the United States” were substituted for “soldier, sailor, or marine” so as to cover those auxiliaries which are now component parts of the Army and Navy.

Changes in phraseology were also made.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$5,000”.

§ 593. Interference by armed forces

Whoever, being an officer or member of the Armed Forces of the United States, prescribes or fixes or attempts to prescribe or fix, whether by proclamation, order or otherwise, the qualifications of voters at any election in any State; or

Whoever, being such officer or member, prevents or attempts to prevent by force, threat, intimidation, advice or otherwise any qualified voter of any State from fully exercising the right of suffrage at any general or special election; or

Whoever, being such officer or member, orders or compels or attempts to compel any election officer in any State to receive a vote from a person not legally qualified to vote; or

Whoever, being such officer or member, imposes or attempts to impose any regulations for conducting any general or special election in a State, different from those prescribed by law; or

Whoever, being such officer or member, interferes in any manner with an election officer’s discharge of his duties—

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both; and disqualified from holding any office of honor, profit or trust under the United States.

This section shall not prevent any officer or member of the Armed Forces from exercising the right of suffrage in any district to which he may belong, if otherwise qualified according to the laws of the State of such district.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 719; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., §§56-59 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, §§23-26, 35 Stat. 1092, 1093).

Four sections were consolidated with only such changes of phraseology as were necessary to effect the consolidation.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$5,000” in sixth par.

§ 594. Intimidation of voters

Whoever intimidates, threatens, coerces, or attempts to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other person for the purpose of interfering with

the right of such other person to vote or to vote as he may choose, or of causing such other person to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, Member of the House of Representatives, Delegate from the District of Columbia, or Resident Commissioner, at any election held solely or in part for the purpose of electing such candidate, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 720; Pub. L. 91-405, title II, §204(d)(5), Sept. 22, 1970, 84 Stat. 853; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(H), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., §§61, 61g (Aug. 2, 1939, 11:50 a.m. E.S.T., ch. 410, §§1, 8, 53 Stat. 1147, 1148).

This section consolidates sections 61 and 61g of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., with changes in phraseology only.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$1,000”.

1970—Pub. L. 91-405 substituted “Delegate from the District of Columbia, or Resident Commissioner” for “Delegates or Commissioners from the Territories and possessions”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-405 effective Sept. 22, 1970, see section 206(b) of Pub. L. 91-405, set out as an Effective Date note under section 25a of Title 2, The Congress.

§ 595. Interference by administrative employees of Federal, State, or Territorial Governments

Whoever, being a person employed in any administrative position by the United States, or by any department or agency thereof, or by the District of Columbia or any agency or instrumentality thereof, or by any State, Territory, or Possession of the United States, or any political subdivision, municipality, or agency thereof, or agency of such political subdivision or municipality (including any corporation owned or controlled by any State, Territory, or Possession of the United States or by any such political subdivision, municipality, or agency), in connection with any activity which is financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States, or any department or agency thereof, uses his official authority for the purpose of interfering with, or affecting, the nomination or the election of any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, Member of the House of Representatives, Delegate from the District of Columbia, or Resident Commissioner, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

This section shall not prohibit or make unlawful any act by any officer or employee of any educational or research institution, establishment, agency, or system which is supported in whole or in part by any state or political subdivision thereof, or by the District of Columbia or by any Territory or Possession of the United States; or by any recognized religious, philanthropic or cultural organization.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 720; Pub. L. 91-405, title II, §204(d)(6), Sept. 22, 1970, 84 Stat. 853;

Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(H), (L), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., §§61a, 61g, 61n, 61s, 61u (Aug. 2, 1939, 11:50 a.m., E.S.T., ch. 410, §§2, 8, 53 Stat. 1147, 1148; July 19, 1940, ch. 640, §1, 54 Stat. 767; Aug. 2, 1939, ch. 410, §§14, 19, as added July 19, 1940, ch. 640, §4, 54 Stat. 767; Aug. 2, 1939, ch. 410, §21, as added Oct. 24, 1942, ch. 620, 56 Stat. 986).

This section consolidates sections 61s, 61n, and 61g with 61a, all of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., in first paragraph, and incorporates section 61u as second paragraph.

Words “or agency thereof” and words “or any department or agency thereof” were inserted to remove any possible ambiguity as to scope of section. (See definitions of department and agency in section 6 of this title.)

Words “or by the District of Columbia or any agency or instrumentality thereof” were inserted upon authority of section 61n of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., which provided that for the purposes of this section, “persons employed in the government of the District of Columbia shall be deemed to be employed in the executive branch of the Government of the United States.”

After “State” the words “Territory, or Possession of the United States” were inserted in two places upon authority of section 61s of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., which defined “State,” as used in this section, as “any State, Territory, or possession of the United States.”

The punishment provision was derived from section 61g of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., which, by reference, made this punishment applicable to this section.

The second paragraph was derived from section 61u of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., which made its provisions applicable to this section by reference.

Changes were made in phraseology.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-322, §330016(1)(L), which directed the amendment of this section by substituting “under this title” for “not more than \$10,000”, could not be executed because the phrase “not more than \$10,000” does not appear in text.

Pub. L. 103-322, §330016(1)(H), substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$1,000” in first par.

1970—Pub. L. 91-405 substituted reference to Delegate from District of Columbia or Resident Commissioner for Delegate or Resident Commissioner from any Territory or Possession.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-405 effective Sept. 22, 1970, see section 206(b) of Pub. L. 91-405, set out as an Effective Date note under section 25a of Title 2, The Congress.

§ 596. Polling armed forces

Whoever, within or without the Armed Forces of the United States, polls any member of such forces, either within or without the United States, either before or after he executes any ballot under any Federal or State law, with reference to his choice of or his vote for any candidate, or states, publishes, or releases any result of any purported poll taken from or among the members of the Armed Forces of the United States or including within it the statement of choice for such candidate or of such votes cast by any member of the Armed Forces of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

The word “poll” means any request for information, verbal or written, which by its language or form of expression requires or implies the ne-