References in Other Laws to GS-16, 17, or 18 Pay Rates

References in laws to the rates of pay for GS-16, 17, or 18, or to maximum rates of pay under the General Schedule, to be considered references to rates payable under specified sections of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, see section 529 [title I, §101(c)(1)] of Pub. L. 101-509, set out in a note under section 5376 of Title 5.

### § 1098a. Regional meetings and negotiated rulemaking

#### (a) Meetings

#### (1) In general

The Secretary shall obtain public involvement in the development of proposed regulations for this subchapter. The Secretary shall obtain the advice of and recommendations from individuals and representatives of the groups involved in student financial assistance programs under this subchapter, such as students, legal assistance organizations that represent students, institutions of higher education, State student grant agencies, guaranty agencies, lenders, secondary markets, loan servicers, guaranty agency servicers, and collection agencies.

#### (2) Issues

The Secretary shall provide for a comprehensive discussion and exchange of information concerning the implementation of this subchapter through such mechanisms as regional meetings and electronic exchanges of information. The Secretary shall take into account the information received through such mechanisms in the development of proposed regulations and shall publish a summary of such information in the Federal Register together with such proposed regulations.

### (b) Draft regulations

# (1) In general

After obtaining the advice and recommendations described in subsection (a)(1) and before publishing proposed regulations in the Federal Register, the Secretary shall prepare draft regulations implementing this subchapter and shall submit such regulations to a negotiated rulemaking process. Participants in the negotiations process shall be chosen by the Secretary from individuals nominated by groups described in subsection (a)(1), and shall include both representatives of such groups from Washington, D.C., and industry participants. The Secretary shall select individuals with demonstrated expertise or experience in the relevant subjects under negotiation, reflecting the diversity in the industry, representing both large and small participants, as well as individuals serving local areas and national markets. The negotiation process shall be conducted in a timely manner in order that the final regulations may be issued by the Secretary within the 360-day period described in section 1232(e) of this title.

# (2) Expansion of negotiated rulemaking

All regulations pertaining to this subchapter that are promulgated after October 7, 1998, shall be subject to a negotiated rulemaking

(including the selection of the issues to be negotiated), unless the Secretary determines that applying such a requirement with respect to given regulations is impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest (within the meaning of section 553(b)(3)(B) of title 5), and publishes the basis for such determination in the Federal Register at the same time as the proposed regulations in question are first published. All published proposed regulations shall conform to agreements resulting from such negotiated rulemaking unless the Secretary reopens the negotiated rulemaking process or provides a written explanation to the participants in that process why the Secretary has decided to depart from such agreements. Such negotiated rulemaking shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1), and the Secretary shall ensure that a clear and reliable record of agreements reached during the negotiations process is maintained.

# (c) Applicability of Federal Advisory Committee Act

The Federal Advisory Committee Act shall not apply to activities carried out under this section.

### (d) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated in any fiscal year or made available from funds appropriated to carry out this part in any fiscal year such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, except that if no funds are appropriated pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary shall make funds available to carry out this section from amounts appropriated for the operations and expenses of the Department of Education.

(Pub. L. 89–329, title IV, § 492, as added Pub. L. 102–325, title IV, § 497, July 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 633; amended Pub. L. 105–244, title IV, § 490D, Oct. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1755; Pub. L. 110–315, title IV, § 494D, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3324; Pub. L. 111–39, title IV, § 407(b)(12), July 1, 2009, 123 Stat. 1953.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (c), is Pub. L. 92–463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, as amended, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 111–39, \$407(b)(12)(A), substituted "regulations for this subchapter. The" for "regulations for parts B, G, and H of this subchapter. The".

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 111-39, \$407(b)(12)(B), substituted "The Secretary shall provide" for text from beginning of par. (2) through "provide", resulting in text identical to that after execution of the amendment by Pub. L. 105-244, \$490D(a)(2)(A). See 1998 Amendment note below.

2008—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 110–315, §494D(a)(1), inserted "State student grant agencies," after "institutions of higher education,".

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 110-315, §494D(a)(2), struck out ", as amended by the Higher Education Amendments of 1998" before "through such mechanisms".

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 110-315, §494D(b), struck out "as amended by the Higher Education Amendments of 1998" before "and shall submit", substituted "The Secretary" for "To the extent possible, the Secretary",

and inserted "with demonstrated expertise or experience in the relevant subjects under negotiation," after "select individuals".

1998—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 105–244, §490D(a)(1)(C), substituted "The Secretary shall obtain the advice of and recommendations from" for "Such meetings shall include"

Pub. L. 105-244, §490D(a)(1)(B), which directed the substitution of "this subchapter;" for "parts B, G, and H of this subchapter,", could not be executed because "parts B, G, and H of this subchapter," does not appear in text.

Pub. L. 105-244, §490D(a)(1)(A), struck out "convene regional meetings to" before "obtain public involvement"

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 105–244, §490D(a)(2)(B)–(D), substituted "this subchapter" for "parts B, G, and H", "1998 through such mechanisms as regional meetings and electronic exchanges of information" for "1992", and "through such mechanisms in" for "at such meetings in".

Pub. L. 105–244, §490D(a)(2)(A), which directed substitution of "The" for "During such meetings the", was executed by making the substitution for "During such meetings, the" before "Secretary shall provide", to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105–244, §490D(b), designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted par. (1) heading, substituted "obtaining the advice and recommendations described in subsection (a)(1)" for "holding regional meetings", "this subchapter" for "parts B, G, and H of this subchapter", "1998" for "1992", "360-day" for "240-day", and "section 1232(e)" for "section 1232(g)", struck out "The Secretary shall follow the guidance provided in sections 305.82–4 and 305.85–5 of chapter 1, Code of Federal Regulations, and any successor recommendation, regulation, or law." after "rulemaking process." and "participating in the regional meetings" after "nominated by groups", and added par. (2).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111–39 effective as if enacted on the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110–315 (Aug. 14, 2008), see section 3 of Pub. L. 111–39, set out as a note under section 1001 of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105–244 effective Oct. 1, 1998, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 105–244, see section 3 of Pub. L. 105–244, set out as a note under section 1001 of this title.

# INAPPLICABILITY OF MASTER CALENDAR AND NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING REQUIREMENTS

This section inapplicable to amendment made by section 100302(a) of Pub. L. 112-141 or to any regulations promulgated under such amendment, see section 100302(b) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as a note under section 1089 of this title.

This section inapplicable to amendments made by section 309 of Pub. L. 112–74 or to any regulations promulgated under such amendments, see section 309(h) of Pub. L. 112–74, set out as a note under section 1089 of this title.

This section inapplicable to amendments made by title V of Pub. L. 112–25 or to any regulations promulgated under such amendments, see section 504 of Pub. L. 112–25, set out as a note under section 1089 of this title

This section inapplicable to amendments made by section 1860(a)(2) of Pub. L. 112–10 or to any regulations promulgated under such amendments, see section 1860(c) of Pub. L. 112–10, set out as a note under section 1089 of this title.

This section inapplicable to amendments made by title IV of Pub. L. 111–39 or to any regulations promulgated under such amendments, see section 409 of Pub. L. 111–39, set out as a note under section 1089 of this title.

This section inapplicable to amendments made by section 402(a) of Pub. L. 110-315 or to any regulations promulgated under such amendments, see section 402(b) of Pub. L. 110-315, set out as a note under section 1089 of this title.

This section inapplicable to amendments made by Pub. L. 110–227 or to any regulations promulgated under such amendments, see section 11 of Pub. L. 110–227, set out as a note under section 1089 of this title.

# § 1098b. Authorization of appropriations for administrative expenses

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 1993 and for each succeeding fiscal year thereafter for administrative expenses necessary for carrying out this subchapter, including expenses for staff personnel, program reviews, and compliance activities.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title IV, § 493, as added Pub. L. 102-325, title IV, § 497, July 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 634.)

# § 1098c. Repealed. Pub. L. 110-315, title IV, § 494E, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3324

Section, Pub. L. 89–329, title IV,  $\S493A$ , as added Pub. L. 105–244, title IV,  $\S490E$ , Oct. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1756, related to Year 2000 requirements at the Department of Education.

### § 1098d. Procedures for cancellations and deferments for eligible disabled veterans

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall develop and implement a procedure to permit Department of Veterans Affairs physicians to provide the certifications and affidavits needed to enable disabled veterans enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system to document such veterans' eligibility for deferments or cancellations of student loans made, insured, or guaranteed under this subchapter. Not later than 6 months after October 7, 1998, the Secretary and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs jointly shall report to Congress on the progress made in developing and implementing the procedure

(Pub. L. 89–329, title IV, §493B, as added Pub. L. 105–244, title IV, §490F, Oct. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1758.)

# EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1998, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 105–244, see section 3 of Pub. L. 105–244, set out as an Effective Date of 1998 Amendment note under section 1001 of this title.

#### § 1098e. Income-based repayment

# (a) Definitions

In this section:

# (1) Excepted PLUS loan

The term "excepted PLUS loan" means a loan under section 1078-2 of this title, or a Federal Direct PLUS Loan, that is made, insured, or guaranteed on behalf of a dependent student.

# (2) Excepted consolidation loan

The term "excepted consolidation loan" means a consolidation loan under section 1078-3 of this title, or a Federal Direct Consoli-