

the United States and the country in which the post is located; or

(2) any post closed because there is a real and present threat to United States diplomatic or consular personnel in the city where the post is located, and a travel advisory warning against travel by United States citizens to that city has been issued by the Department of State.

**(e) “Consular or diplomatic post” defined**

As used in this section, the term “consular or diplomatic post” does not include a post to which only personnel of agencies other than the Department of State are assigned.

(Aug. 1, 1956, ch. 841, title I, § 48, as added Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 112(a)(1), Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 654.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 48 of act Aug. 1, 1956, was set out as a Short Title of 1956 Amendment note under section 2651 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 111(1), Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 654.

Provisions similar to this section were contained in Pub. L. 100-204, title I, § 122, Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1339, and set out as a note under section 2656 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 112(b), Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 655.

AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Except as otherwise provided, Secretary of State to have and exercise any authority vested by law in any official or office of Department of State and references to such officials or offices deemed to refer to Secretary of State or Department of State, as appropriate, see section 2651a of this title and section 161(d) of Pub. L. 103-236, set out as a note under section 2651a of this title.

**§ 2721. Impermissible basis for denial of passports**

A passport may not be denied issuance, revoked, restricted, or otherwise limited because of any speech, activity, belief, affiliation, or membership, within or outside the United States, which, if held or conducted within the United States, would be protected by the first amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

(Aug. 1, 1956, ch. 841, title I, § 49, as added Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 113, Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 655.)

**§ 2722. International meetings**

**(a) Authority to pay expenses**

If the United States Government hosts an international meeting or conference in the United States, the Secretary of State is authorized to pay all reasonable expenses of such meeting or conference. Such expenses may include rental of quarters (by contract or otherwise) and personal services.

**(b) Retention of reimbursements**

To the extent provided in an appropriation Act, transfers of funds or other reimbursements for payments under subsection (a) are authorized to be retained and credited to the appropriate appropriation account of the Department of State which is available.

(Aug. 1, 1956, ch. 841, title I, § 50, as added Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 119, Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 658.)

**§ 2723. Denial of visas**

**(a) Report to Congress**

**(1) Denial of visas**

The Secretary shall report, on a timely basis, to the appropriate committees of the Congress each time a consular post denies a visa on the grounds of terrorist activities or foreign policy. Such report shall set forth the name and nationality of each such person and a factual statement of the basis for such denial.

**(2) Visa issuance to inadmissible aliens**

The Secretary shall, on a semiannual basis, submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report describing every instance during the period covered by the report in which a consular post or the Visa Office of the Department of State issued an immigrant or nonimmigrant visa to an alien who is inadmissible to the United States based upon terrorist activity or failed to object to the issuance of an immigrant or nonimmigrant visa to an alien notwithstanding any such ground of inadmissibility. The report shall set forth the name and nationality of the alien, the issuing post, and a brief factual statement of the basis for issuance of the visa or the failure to object. The report may be submitted in classified or unclassified form.

**(b) Limitation**

Information contained in such report may be classified to the extent necessary and shall protect intelligence sources and methods.

**(c) Appropriate committees**

For the purposes of this section the term “appropriate committees of the Congress” means the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(Aug. 1, 1956, ch. 841, title I, § 51, as added Pub. L. 102-138, title I, § 127(a), Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 660; amended Pub. L. 107-228, div. A, title II, § 231, Sept. 30, 2002, 116 Stat. 1372.)

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-228 designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted par. (1) heading, and added par. (2).

**§ 2724. Fees for commercial services**

**(a) Authority to charge fee**

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of State is authorized to charge a fee to cover the actual or estimated cost of providing any person, firm or organization (other than agencies of the United States Government) with commercial services at posts abroad on matters within the authority of the Department of State.

(2) The authority of this section may be exercised only in countries where the Department of Commerce does not perform commercial services for which it collects fees.

**(b) Use of fees**

Funds collected under the authority of subsection (a) shall be deposited as an offsetting