

For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 12101 of this title and Tables.

Section 12102 of this title, referred to in subsec. (a), was amended generally by Pub. L. 110-325, §4(a), Sept. 25, 2008, 122 Stat. 3555, and, as so amended, provisions formerly appearing in par. (2) are now contained in par. (1).

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 512 of Pub. L. 101-336, which amended former section 706 of Title 29, Labor, was renumbered section 513.

§ 12212. Alternative means of dispute resolution

Where appropriate and to the extent authorized by law, the use of alternative means of dispute resolution, including settlement negotiations, conciliation, facilitation, mediation, fact-finding, minitrials, and arbitration, is encouraged to resolve disputes arising under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 101-336, title V, § 514, formerly § 513, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 377; renumbered § 514, Pub. L. 110-325, § 6(a)(2), Sept. 25, 2008, 122 Stat. 3558.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 101-336, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 327, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 12101 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 514 of Pub. L. 101-336 was renumbered section 515 and is classified to section 12213 of this title.

§ 12213. Severability

Should any provision in this chapter be found to be unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of the chapter, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of the chapter.

(Pub. L. 101-336, title V, § 515, formerly § 514, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 378; renumbered § 515, Pub. L. 110-325, § 6(a)(2), Sept. 25, 2008, 122 Stat. 3558.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 101-336, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 327, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 12101 of this title and Tables.

CHAPTER 127—COORDINATED SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

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§ 12301. Findings

Congress finds that—

- (1) children and youth are inherently the most valuable resource of the United States;
- (2) the welfare, protection, healthy development, and positive role of children and youth in society are essential to the United States;
- (3) children and youth deserve love, respect, and guidance, as well as good health, shelter, food, education, productive employment opportunities, and preparation for responsible participation in community life;
- (4) children and youth have increasing opportunities to participate in the decisions that affect their lives;
- (5) the family is the primary caregiver and source of social learning and must be supported and strengthened;
- (6) when a family is unable to ensure the satisfaction of basic needs of children and youth it is the responsibility of society to assist such family; and
- (7) it is the joint and several responsibility of the Federal Government, each State, and the political subdivisions of each State to assist children and youth to secure, to the maximum extent practicable, equal opportunity to full and free access to—
  - (A) the best possible physical and mental health;
  - (B) adequate and safe physical shelter;
  - (C) a high level of educational opportunity;
  - (D) effective training, apprenticeships, opportunities for community service, and productive employment and participation in decisions affecting their lives;