

and other expenses incurred by the United States in connection with the action. In an action under this subsection, the validity and appropriateness of the Secretary's determination or order imposing the penalty shall not be subject to review.

**(6) Settlement by Secretary**

The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit any civil money penalty which may be, or has been, imposed under this subsection.

**(7) Deposit of penalties**

The Secretary shall deposit all civil money penalties collected under this subsection into miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury.

**(d) Criminal penalties**

Whoever willfully violates subsection (a) by making a disclosure prohibited by subsection (a) to any applicant, or any officer, employee, representative, agent, or consultant of any applicant, shall be imprisoned not more than 5 years, or fined in accordance with title 18, or both.

**(e) Definitions**

For purposes of this section:

**(1) Applicant**

The term "applicant" means any applicant or candidate that is being considered for receiving assistance.

**(2) Assistance**

The term "assistance" means any grant, loan, subsidy, guarantee, or other financial assistance under a program administered by the Secretary that provides by statute, regulation, or otherwise for the competitive distribution of such assistance. The term does not include any mortgage insurance provided under a program administered by the Secretary.

**(3) Covered selection information**

The term "covered selection information" means—

(A) any information that is contained in any application or request for assistance, or any information regarding the decision of the Secretary to make available assistance or other information that is determined by the Secretary to be information that is not generally available to the public (not including program requirements and timing of the decision to make assistance available); and

(B) any information that is required by statute, regulation, or order to be confidential.

**(4) Knowingly**

The term "knowingly" means having actual knowledge of or acting with deliberate ignorance of or reckless disregard for the prohibitions under this section.

**(5) Selection**

The term "selection" means the determination of which applicants for assistance are to receive assistance under the program.

**(6) Selection process**

The term "selection process" means the period with respect to a selection for assistance that begins with the development, prepara-

tion, and issuance of a solicitation or request for applications for the assistance and concludes with the selection of recipients of assistance, and includes the evaluation of applications.

**(f) Regulations**

The Secretary shall issue such regulations as the Secretary deems appropriate to implement this section.

**(g) Applicability**

This section shall apply only with respect to violations that occur on or after December, 15, 1989.

(Pub. L. 89-174, §12, as added Pub. L. 101-235, title I, §103, Dec. 15, 1989, 103 Stat. 1995.)

**§ 3537b. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-65, § 11(b)(1), Dec. 19, 1995, 109 Stat. 701**

Section, Pub. L. 89-174, §13, as added Pub. L. 101-235, title I, §112, Dec. 15, 1989, 103 Stat. 2016; amended Pub. L. 102-550, title IX, §926, Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3885, related to registration of and reports by persons spending money to influence Department decisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Jan. 1, 1996, except as otherwise provided, see section 24 of Pub. L. 104-65, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1601 of Title 2, The Congress.

**§ 3537c. Prohibition of lump-sum payments**

In providing relocation assistance in connection with any program administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary may not make lump-sum payments to any displaced residential tenant, except where necessary to cover—

(1) moving expenses;

(2) a downpayment on the purchase of a replacement residence, including a condominium unit or membership in a cooperative housing association; or

(3) any incidental expenses related to paragraph (1) or (2).

(Pub. L. 89-174, §14, as added Pub. L. 102-550, title IX, §922, Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3884.)

**§ 3538. Rescheduling and refinancing of Federal loans**

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to refinance any note or other obligation which is held by him in connection with any loan made by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or its predecessor in interest, or which is included within the revolving fund for liquidating programs established by the Independent Offices Appropriation Act of 1955 [12 U.S.C. 1701g-5], where he finds such refinancing necessary because of the loss, destruction, or damage (as a result of a major disaster) to property or facilities securing such obligations. The Secretary may authorize a suspension in the payment of principal and interest charges on, and an additional extension in the maturity of, any such loan for a period not to exceed five years if he determines that such action is necessary to avoid severe financial hardship.

(Pub. L. 91-606, title II, §236(b), Dec. 31, 1970, 84 Stat. 1754.)