

**§ 715a. Migratory Bird Conservation Commission; creation; composition; duties; approval of areas of land and water recommended for purchase or rental**

A commission to be known as the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, consisting of the Secretary of the Interior, as chairman, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of Agriculture and two Members of the Senate, to be selected by the President of the Senate, and two Members of the House of Representatives to be selected by the Speaker, is created and authorized to consider and pass upon any area of land, water, or land and water that may be recommended by the Secretary of the Interior for purchase or rental under this subchapter, and to fix the price or prices at which such area may be purchased or rented; and no purchase or rental shall be made of any such area until it has been duly approved for purchase or rental by said commission. Any Member of the House of Representatives who is a member of the commission, if reelected to the succeeding Congress, may serve on the commission notwithstanding the expiration of a Congress. Any vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The ranking officer of the branch or department of a State to which is committed the administration of its game laws, or his authorized representative, and in a State having no such branch or department, the governor thereof, or his authorized representative, shall be a member ex officio of said commission for the purpose of considering and voting on all questions relating to the acquisition, under this subchapter, of areas in his State. For purposes of this subchapter, the purchase or rental of any area of land, water, or land and water includes the purchase or rental of any interest in any such area of land, water, or land and water.

(Feb. 18, 1929, ch. 257, § 2, 45 Stat. 1222; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, § 4(f), (h), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1433; Pub. L. 90-261, Mar. 2, 1968, 82 Stat. 39; Pub. L. 94-215, § 4, Feb. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 190; Pub. L. 101-233, § 13, Dec. 13, 1989, 103 Stat. 1977.)

AMENDMENTS

1989—Pub. L. 101-233 substituted “Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency” for “Secretary of Transportation”.

1976—Pub. L. 94-215 inserted provision including in the purchase or rental of any area of land, water, or land and water the purchase or rental of any interest in any such area of land, water, or land and water.

1968—Pub. L. 90-261 substituted the Secretary of Transportation for the Secretary of Commerce in the membership of the Commission.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Reorg. Plan No. II of 1939, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, transferred functions of Secretary of Agriculture relating to conservation of wildlife, game, and migratory birds to Secretary of the Interior, and provided that Secretary of the Interior should be chairman of Migratory Bird Conservation Commission and that Secretary of Agriculture should be a member thereof.

**§ 715b. Annual report**

The commission created by section 715a of this title shall, through its chairman, annually re-

port in detail to Congress, not later than the first Monday in December, the operations of the commission during the preceding fiscal year.

(Feb. 18, 1929, ch. 257, § 3, 45 Stat. 1223.)

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of provisions of law requiring submittal to Congress of any annual, semiannual, or other regular periodic report listed in House Document No. 103-7 (in which a report required under this section is listed on page 177), see section 3003 of Pub. L. 104-66, as amended, set out as a note under section 1113 of Title 31, Money and Finance.

**§ 715c. Areas recommended for approval; character**

The Secretary of the Interior may not recommend any area for purchase or rental under the terms of this subchapter unless the Secretary of the Interior—

(1) has determined that such area is necessary for the conservation of migratory birds; and

(2) has consulted with the county or other unit of local government in which such area is located and with the Governor of the State concerned or the appropriate State agency.

(Feb. 18, 1929, ch. 257, § 4, 45 Stat. 1223; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, § 4(f), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1433; Pub. L. 89-669, § 7(a), Oct. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 929; Pub. L. 95-552, § 2, Oct. 30, 1978, 92 Stat. 2071.)

AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-552 substituted “may not recommend any area” for “shall recommend no area”, incorporated existing provision in item (1) and added item (2).

1966—Pub. L. 89-669 struck out “game” from “migratory game birds”.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Transfer of functions of Secretary of Agriculture to Secretary of the Interior by Reorg. Plan No. II of 1939, see Transfer of Functions note set out under section 715a of this title.

**§ 715d. Purchase or rental of approved areas or interests therein; gifts and devises; United States lands**

The Secretary of the Interior may—

(1) purchase or rent such areas or interests therein as have been approved for purchase or rental by the Commission at the price or prices fixed by the Commission; and

(2) acquire, by gift or devise, any area or interests therein;

which he determines to be suitable for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds. The Secretary may pay, when deemed necessary by him and from moneys authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of this subchapter (A) the purchase or rental price of any such area or interest therein, and (B) the expenses incident to the location, examination, survey, and acquisition of title (including options) of any such area or interest therein. No lands acquired, held, or used by the United States for military purposes shall be subject to any provisions of this subchapter.

(Feb. 18, 1929, ch. 257, § 5, 45 Stat. 1223; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, § 4(f), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R.