

such agency or person shall constitute a pattern of serious, willful, or grossly negligent failures to comply under subsection (c)(1)(B).

**(4) Failure to comply with certain requirements**

A failure to comply with the requirements of section 14923(b)(1)(A)(ii) of this title shall constitute a serious failure to comply under subsection (c)(1)(B) unless it is shown by clear and convincing evidence that such noncompliance had neither the purpose nor the effect of determining the outcome of a decision or proceeding by a court or other competent authority in the United States or the child's country of origin.

(Pub. L. 106-279, title II, §204, Oct. 6, 2000, 114 Stat. 835.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 106-279, Oct. 6, 2000, 114 Stat. 825, known as the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 14901 of this title and Tables.

This subchapter, referred to in subsecs. (c)(1), (3) and (d), was in the original "this title", meaning title II of Pub. L. 106-279, Oct. 6, 2000, 114 Stat. 830, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Tables.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 6, 2000, with transition rule, see section 505(a)(1), (b) of Pub. L. 106-279, set out as an Effective Dates; Transition Rule note under section 14901 of this title.

**§ 14925. Universal accreditation requirements**

**(a) In general**

The provisions of title II and section 404 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14901 et seq. [42 U.S.C. 14944]), and related implementing regulations, shall apply to any person offering or providing adoption services in connection with a child described in section 1101(b)(1)(F) of title 8, to the same extent as they apply to the offering or provision of adoption services in connection with a Convention adoption. The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General (with respect to section 404(b) of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14944[(b)])), and the accrediting entities shall have the duties, responsibilities, and authorities under title II and title IV of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 [42 U.S.C. 14921 et seq., 14941 et seq.] and related implementing regulations with respect to a person offering or providing such adoption services, irrespective of whether such services are offered or provided in connection with a Convention adoption.

**(b) Effective date**

The provisions of this section shall take effect 18 months after January 14, 2013.

**(c) Transition rule**

This Act shall not apply to a person offering or providing adoption services as described in subsection (a) in the case of a prospective adoption in which—

(1) an application for advance processing of an orphan petition or petition to classify an orphan as an immediate relative for a child is filed before the date that is 180 days after January 14, 2013; or

(2) the prospective adoptive parents of a child have initiated the adoption process with the filing of an appropriate application in a foreign country sufficient such that the Secretary of State is satisfied before the date that is 180 days after January 14, 2013.

(Pub. L. 112-276, §2, Jan. 14, 2013, 126 Stat. 2466.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000, referred to in subsec. (a), is Pub. L. 106-279, Oct. 6, 2000, 114 Stat. 825. Title II of the Act is classified principally to this subchapter, and title IV of the Act is classified generally to subchapter IV (§14941 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 14901 of this title and Tables.

This Act, referred to in subsec. (c), is Pub. L. 112-276, Jan. 14, 2013, 126 Stat. 2466, known as the Intercountry Adoption Universal Accreditation Act of 2012. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2013 Amendment note set out under section 14901 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Intercountry Adoption Universal Accreditation Act of 2012, and not as part of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 which comprises this chapter.

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 112-276, §4, Jan. 14, 2013, 126 Stat. 2467, provided that: "In this Act [see Short Title of 2013 Amendment note set out under section 14901 of this title], the terms 'accrediting entity', 'adoption service', 'Convention adoption', and 'person' have the meanings given those terms in section 3 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14902)."

SUBCHAPTER III—RECOGNITION OF CONVENTION ADOPTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

**§ 14931. Adoptions of children immigrating to the United States**

**(a) Legal effect of certificates issued by the Secretary of State**

**(1) Issuance of certificates by the Secretary of State**

The Secretary of State shall, with respect to each Convention adoption, issue a certificate to the adoptive citizen parent domiciled in the United States that the adoption has been granted or, in the case of a prospective adoptive citizen parent, that legal custody of the child has been granted to the citizen parent for purposes of emigration and adoption, pursuant to the Convention and this chapter, if the Secretary of State—

(A) receives appropriate notification from the central authority of such child's country of origin; and

(B) has verified that the requirements of the Convention and this chapter have been met with respect to the adoption.

**(2) Legal effect of certificates**

If appended to an original adoption decree, the certificate described in paragraph (1) shall