

**§ 9093. Prevention of deceased individuals receiving payments under farm commodity programs**

**(a) Reconciliation**

At least twice each year, the Secretary shall reconcile Social Security numbers of all individuals who receive payments under this chapter, whether directly or indirectly, with the Commissioner of Social Security to determine if the individuals are alive.

**(b) Preclusion**

The Secretary shall preclude the issuance of payments to, and on behalf of, deceased individuals that were not eligible for payments.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title I, §1608, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 708.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this title”, meaning title I of Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 9094. Assignment of payments**

**(a) In general**

The provisions of section 590h(g) of title 16, relating to assignment of payments, shall apply to payments made under this chapter.

**(b) Notice**

The producer making the assignment, or the assignee, shall provide the Secretary with notice, in such manner as the Secretary may require, of any assignment made under this section.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title I, §1611, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 710.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this title”, meaning title I of Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 649, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 9095. Tracking of benefits**

As soon as practicable after February 7, 2014, the Secretary may track the benefits provided, directly or indirectly, to individuals and entities under titles I and II and the amendments made by those titles.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title I, §1612, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 710.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Titles I and II, referred to in text, are titles I and II of Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658, 713. Title I of the Act is classified principally to this chapter. Title II of the Act enacted, amended, and repealed numerous sections and provisions set out as notes in Title 16, Conservation, and Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of titles I and II to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 9096. Signature authority**

**(a) In general**

In carrying out this title and title II and amendments made by those titles, if the Secretary approves a document, the Secretary shall

not subsequently determine the document is inadequate or invalid because of the lack of authority of any person signing the document on behalf of the applicant or any other individual, entity, general partnership, or joint venture, or the documents relied upon were determined inadequate or invalid, unless the person signing the program document knowingly and willfully falsified the evidence of signature authority or a signature.

**(b) Affirmation**

**(1) In general**

Nothing in this section prohibits the Secretary from asking a proper party to affirm any document that otherwise would be considered approved under subsection (a).

**(2) No retroactive effect**

A denial of benefits based on a lack of affirmation under paragraph (1) shall not be retroactive with respect to third-party producers who were not the subject of the erroneous representation of authority, if the third-party producers—

- (A) relied on the prior approval by the Secretary of the documents in good faith; and
- (B) substantively complied with all program requirements.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title I, §1613, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 710.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This title and title II, referred to in subsec. (a), are titles I and II of Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658, 713. Title I of the Act is classified principally to this chapter. Title II of the Act enacted, amended, and repealed numerous sections and provisions set out as notes in Title 16, Conservation, and Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of titles I and II to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 9097. Implementation**

**(a) Maintenance of base acres and payment yields**

The Secretary shall maintain, for each covered commodity and upland cotton, base acres and payment yields on a farm established under sections 8702 and 8751 of this title, as adjusted pursuant to sections 8711, 8712, 8718, and 8752 of this title, as in effect on September 30, 2013, and as adjusted pursuant to sections 9012 and 9013 of this title.

**(b) Streamlining**

In implementing this chapter and the amendments made by this title,<sup>1</sup> the Secretary shall—

- (1) continue to reduce administrative burdens and costs to producers by streamlining and reducing paperwork, forms, and other administrative requirements, to ensure that—

(A) a producer (or an agent of a producer) may report information, electronically (including geospatial data) or conventionally, to the Department of Agriculture, subject to the Secretary—

- (i) establishing reasonable levels of tolerance that reflect the differences in accuracy between measures of common land units and geospatial data; and

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.