

quantity of farmland actually converted by Federal programs, and to identify and take into account the adverse effects of Federal programs on the preservation of farmland; consider alternative actions, as appropriate, that could lessen such adverse effects; and assure that such Federal programs, to the extent practicable, are compatible with State, unit of local government, and private programs and policies to protect farmland.

(c) Availability of restorative, etc., information

The Department of Agriculture may make available to States, units of local government, individuals, organizations, and other units of the Federal Government information useful in restoring, maintaining, and improving the quantity and quality of farmland.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1541, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1342; Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, §1454, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3614.)

AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101-624 inserted “to identify the quantity of farmland actually converted by Federal programs, and” after “of this section.”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective six months after Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1549 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as a note under section 4201 of this title.

§ 4203. Existing policies and procedures; review, etc.

(a) Each department, agency, independent commission, or other unit of the Federal Government, with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture, shall review current provisions of law, administrative rules and regulations, and policies and procedures applicable to it to determine whether any provision thereof will prevent such unit of the Federal Government from taking appropriate action to comply fully with the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Each department, agency, independent commission, or other unit of the Federal Government, with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture, shall, as appropriate, develop proposals for action to bring its programs, authorities, and administrative activities into conformity with the purpose and policy of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XIV, §1542, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1343.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective six months after Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1549 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as a note under section 4201 of this title.

§ 4204. Technical assistance

The Secretary is encouraged to provide technical assistance to any State or unit of local government, or any nonprofit organization, as determined by the Secretary, that desires to develop programs or policies to limit the conversion of productive farmland to nonagricultural uses.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1543, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1343.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective six months after Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1549 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as a note under section 4201 of this title.

§ 4205. Farmland resource information

(a) The Secretary, through existing agencies or interagency groups, and in cooperation with the cooperative extension services of the States, shall design and implement educational programs and materials emphasizing the importance of productive farmland to the Nation's well-being and distribute educational materials through communications media, schools, groups, and other Federal agencies.

(b) The Secretary shall designate one or more farmland information centers to serve as central depositories and distribution points for information on farmland issues, policies, programs, technical principles, and innovative actions or proposals by local and State governments.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1544, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1343.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective six months after Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1549 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as a note under section 4201 of this title.

§ 4206. Grants, contracts, etc., authority

The Secretary may carry out the purposes of this chapter, with existing facilities and funds otherwise available, through the use of grants, contracts, or such other means as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1545, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1343.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective six months after Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1549 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as a note under section 4201 of this title.

§ 4207. Reporting requirement

On January 1, 1987, and at the beginning of each subsequent calendar year,¹ the Secretary of Agriculture shall report to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives on the progress made in implementing the provisions of this chapter. Such report shall include information on—

(1) the effects, if any, of Federal programs, authorities, and administrative activities with respect to the protection of United States farmland; and

(2) the results of the reviews of existing policies and procedures required under section 4203(a) of this title.

(Pub. L. 97-98, title XV, §1546, Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1343; Pub. L. 99-198, title XII, §1255(a), Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1518.)

AMENDMENTS

1985—Pub. L. 99-198 substituted “On January 1, 1987, and at the beginning of each subsequent calendar year.” for “Within one year after December 22, 1981.”.

¹ So in original. The period probably should be a comma.