

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2021 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 117-81 applicable as if included in the enactment of title XVIII of Pub. L. 116-283 as enacted, see section 1701(a)(2) of Pub. L. 117-81, set out in a note preceding section 3001 of this title and Effective Date note below.

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Section and amendment by Pub. L. 116-283 effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, see section 1801(d) of Pub. L. 116-283, set out as an Effective Date of 2021 Amendment note preceding section 3001 of this title.

**§ 3306. Encouragement of alternative dispute resolution**

The Federal Acquisition Regulation shall include a provision encouraging the use of alternative dispute resolution techniques to provide informal, expeditious, and inexpensive procedures for an offeror to consider using before filing a protest, prior to the award of a contract, of the exclusion of the offeror from the competitive range (or otherwise from further consideration) for that contract.

(Added and amended Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVIII, §1816(c)(2)(F), (8), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4182, 4185.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

The text of subsec. (b)(8) of this title, which was transferred to this section and amended by Pub. L. 116-283, §1816(c)(1), (2)(F), (8), was based on Pub. L. 104-106, div. D, title XLI, §4104(a)(3), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 644.

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3306, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 190, related to promotion of officers in regular grade of colonel to grade of brigadier general, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 96-513, title II, §204, title VII, §701, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2880, 2955, effective Sept. 15, 1981. See section 619 et seq. of this title.

## AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283, §1816(c)(8), transferred subsec. (b)(8) of section 2305 of this title to this section and struck out par. (8) designation at beginning.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Section and amendment by Pub. L. 116-283 effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, see section 1801(d) of Pub. L. 116-283, set out as an Effective Date of 2021 Amendment note preceding section 3001 of this title.

**§ 3307. Antitrust violations**

If the head of an agency considers that a bid or proposal evidences a violation of the antitrust laws, he shall refer the bid or proposal to the Attorney General for appropriate action.

(Added and amended Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVIII, §1816(c)(2)(G), (9), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4182, 4185.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

The text of subsec. (b)(9) of section 2305 of this title, which was transferred to this section and amended by Pub. L. 116-283, §1816(c)(1), (2)(G), (9), was based on Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title VII, §2723(b), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1192; Pub. L. 99-145, title XIII, §1303(a)(14), Nov. 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 739; Pub. L. 103-355, title I, §1014(1), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3255; Pub. L. 104-106, div. D, title XLI, §4104(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 644.

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3307, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 191, related to promotion of officers in regular grade of brigadier general to grade of major general, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 96-513, title II, §204, title VII, §701, Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2880, 2955, effective Sept. 15, 1981. See section 619 et seq. of this title.

## AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283, §1816(c)(9), transferred subsec. (b)(9) of section 2305 of this title to this section and struck out par. (9) designation at beginning.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Section and amendment by Pub. L. 116-283 effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, see section 1801(d) of Pub. L. 116-283, set out as an Effective Date of 2021 Amendment note preceding section 3001 of this title.

**§ 3308. Protests**

## (a) PROTEST FILE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND ACCESS.—If, in the case of a solicitation for a contract issued by, or an award or proposed award of a contract by, the head of an agency, a protest is filed pursuant to the procedures in subchapter V of chapter 35 of title 31 and an actual or prospective offeror so requests, a file of the protest shall be established by the procuring activity and reasonable access shall be provided to actual or prospective offerors.

(2) REDACTED INFORMATION.—Information exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5 may be redacted in a file established pursuant to paragraph (1) unless an applicable protective order provides otherwise.

(b) AGENCY ACTIONS ON PROTESTS.—If, in connection with a protest, the head of an agency determines that a solicitation, proposed award, or award does not comply with the requirements of law or regulation, the head of the agency—

(1) may take any action set out in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of subsection (b)(1) of section 3554 of title 31; and

(2) may pay costs described in paragraph (1) of section 3554(c) of title 31 within the limits referred to in paragraph (2) of such section.

(Added and amended Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVIII, §1816(d), (e), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4185.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

The text of subsec. (e) of section 2305 of this title, which was transferred to this section, redesignated as subsec. (a), and amended by Pub. L. 116-283, §1816(e), was based on Pub. L. 103-355, title I, §1015, Oct. 13, 1994,