

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1683a, referred to in text, was in the original section “803”, and was translated as meaning the section 803 of act June 17, 1930, as added by section 3301(a) of Pub. L. 110-246, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

This Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is act June 17, 1930, ch. 497, 46 Stat. 590, known as the Tariff Act of 1930, which is classified generally to this chapter. The Act does not contain a title V. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1654 of this title and Tables.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 60 days after June 18, 2008, see section 3301(b) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 1683 of this title.

§ 1683f. Penalties**(a) In general**

It shall be unlawful for any person to import into the United States softwood lumber or softwood lumber products in knowing violation of this subtitle.

(b) Civil penalties

Any person who commits an unlawful act as set forth in subsection (a) shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each knowing violation.

(c) Other penalties

In addition to the penalties provided for in subsection (b), any violation of this subtitle that violates any other customs law of the United States shall be subject to any applicable civil and criminal penalty, including seizure and forfeiture, that may be imposed under such custom law or title 18, with respect to the importation of softwood lumber and softwood lumber products described in section 1683b(a) of this title.

(d) Factors to consider in assessing penalties

In determining the amount of civil penalties to be assessed under this section, consideration shall be given to any history of prior violations of this subtitle by the person, the ability of the person to pay the penalty, the seriousness of the violation, and such other matters as fairness may require.

(e) Notice

No penalty may be assessed under this section against a person for violating a provision of this subtitle unless the person is given notice and opportunity to make statements, both oral and written, with respect to such violation.

(f) Exception

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, and without limitation, an importer shall not be found to have violated subsection¹ 1683a(c) of this title if—

(1) the importer made an appropriate inquiry in accordance with section 1683a(c)(1) of this title with respect to the declaration;

(2) the importer produces records maintained pursuant to section 1683e(b) of this title that substantiate the declaration; and

(3) there is not substantial evidence indicating that the importer knew that the fact to which the importer made the declaration was false.

(June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title VIII, § 808, as added Pub. L. 110-246, title III, § 3301(a), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1852.)

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Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 60 days after June 18, 2008, see section 3301(b) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 1683 of this title.

§ 1683g. Reports**(a) Semiannual reports**

Not later than 180 days after the effective date of this subtitle, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(1) describing the reconciliations conducted under section 1683d of this title,¹ and the verifications conducted under section 1683e of this title;

(2) identifying the manner in which the United States importers subject to reconciliations conducted under section 1683d of this title and verifications conducted under section 1683e of this title were chosen;

(3) identifying any penalties imposed under section 1683f of this title;

(4) identifying any patterns of noncompliance with this subtitle; and

(5) identifying any problems or obstacles encountered in the implementation and enforcement of this subtitle.

(b) Subsidies reports

Not later than 180 days after June 18, 2008, and every 180 days thereafter, the Secretary of Commerce shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a report on any subsidies on softwood lumber or softwood lumber products, including stumpage subsidies, provided by countries of export.

(c) GAO reports

The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit the following reports to the appropriate congressional committees:

(1) Not later than 18 months after June 18, 2008, a report on the effectiveness of the reconciliations conducted under section 1683d of this title,¹ and verifications conducted under section 1683e of this title.

(2) Not later than 12 months after June 18, 2008, a report on whether countries that export softwood lumber or softwood lumber products to the United States are complying with any

¹ So in original. Probably should be “section”.

¹ So in original. Comma probably should not appear.