

**Editorial Notes**

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 908, acts May 20, 1936, ch. 432, title I, § 8, 49 Stat. 1366; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 776, § 2, 63 Stat. 948; Oct. 13, 1994, Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 235(a)(4), 108 Stat. 3221, related to transfer of functions of Rural Electrification Administration created by Executive Order No. 7037, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, § 776, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1150.

**§ 909. Administration on nonpolitical basis; dismissal of officers or employees for violating provision**

This chapter shall be administered entirely on a nonpartisan basis, and in the appointment of officials, the selection of employees, and in the promotion of any such officials or employees, no political test or qualification shall be permitted or given consideration, but all such appointments and promotions shall be given and made on the basis of merit and efficiency. If the Secretary herein provided for is found by the President of the United States to be guilty of a violation of this section, he shall be removed from office by the President, and any appointee or selection of officials or employees made by the Secretary who is found guilty of a violation of this chapter shall be removed by the Secretary.

(May 20, 1936, ch. 432, title I, § 9, 49 Stat. 1366; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 776, § 2, 63 Stat. 948; Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 235(a)(13), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3221.)

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## AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator” wherever appearing.

1949—Act Oct. 28, 1949, inserted “title I,” in credit of act May 20, 1936.

**§ 910. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, § 777, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1150**

Section, acts May 20, 1936, ch. 432, title I, § 10, 49 Stat. 1366; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 776, § 2, 63 Stat. 948; Apr. 21, 1976, Pub. L. 94-273, § 11(1), 90 Stat. 378; Oct. 13, 1994, Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 235(a)(13), 108 Stat. 3221, required Secretary to present annually to Congress, not later than Apr. 20, report of Secretary’s activities under this chapter.

**§ 911. Acceptance of services of Federal or State officers; application of civil service laws; expenditures for supplies and equipment**

In order to carry out the provisions of this chapter the Secretary may accept and utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services of Federal, State, and local officers and employees as are available, and he may appoint and fix the compensation of attorneys, engineers, and experts and he may, subject to the civil-service laws, appoint such other officers and employees as he may find necessary and prescribe their duties. The Secretary is authorized, from sums appropriated pursuant to section 906 of this title, to make such expenditures (including expenditures for personal services; supplies and equipment; lawbooks and books of reference; directories and periodicals; travel expenses; rental at the seat of government and elsewhere; the purchase, operation, or maintenance of passenger-

carrying vehicles; and printing and binding) as are appropriate and necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(May 20, 1936, ch. 432, title I, § 11, 49 Stat. 1366; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 776, § 2, 63 Stat. 948; Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 235(a)(13), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3221.)

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## CODIFICATION

Provisions which authorized the appointment and fixing of compensation of attorneys, engineers, and experts “without regard to the provisions of the civil service laws applicable to officers and employees of the United States” were omitted from the Code as obsolete and superseded. Such appointments are now subject to the civil service laws unless specifically excepted by those laws or by laws enacted subsequent to Executive Order 8743, Apr. 23, 1941, issued by the President pursuant to act Nov. 26, 1940, ch. 919, title I, § 1, 54 Stat. 1211, which covered most excepted positions into the classified (competitive) civil service. The Order is set out as a note under section 3301 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees. As to the compensation of such personnel, sections 1202 and 1204 of the Classification Act of 1949, 63 Stat. 972, 973, repealed the Classification Act of 1923 and all other laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the 1949 Act. The Classification Act of 1949 was repealed by Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, § 8(a), 80 Stat. 632, and reenacted as chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of Title 5. Section 5102 of Title 5 now contains the applicability provisions of the 1949 Act, and section 5103 of Title 5 authorizes the Office of Personnel Management to determine the applicability to specific positions and employees.

## AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator” in two places.

1949—Act Oct. 28, 1949, inserted “title I,” in credit of act May 20, 1936.

**§ 911a. Repealed. Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 235(a)(5), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3221**

Section, act May 20, 1936, ch. 432, title I, § 11A, as added Nov. 28, 1990, Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, § 2350, 104 Stat. 4037; amended Dec. 13, 1991, Pub. L. 102-237, title VII, § 703(a), 105 Stat. 1881, related to Assistant Administrator for Economic Development.

**§ 912. Extension of time for repayment of loans****(a) In general**

The Secretary is authorized and empowered to extend the time of payment of interest or principal of any loans made by the Secretary pursuant to this chapter, except that, with respect to any loan made under section 904 or 922 of this title, the payment of interest or principal shall not be extended more than five years after such payment shall have become due.

**(b) Terms of deferment**

(1) Subject to limitations established in appropriations Acts, the Secretary shall permit any borrower to defer the payment of principal and interest on any insured or direct loan made under this chapter under circumstances described in this subsection, notwithstanding any limitation contained in subsection (a), except that such deferment shall not be permitted based on the determination of the Secretary of the financial hardship of the borrower.

(2)(A) In the case of deferments made to enable the borrower to provide financing to local busi-

nesses, the deferment shall be repaid in equal installments, without the accrual of interest, over the 60-month period beginning on the date of the deferment, and the total amount of such payments shall be equal to the amount of the payment deferred.

(B) In the case of deferments made to enable the borrower to provide community development assistance, technical assistance to businesses, and for other community, business, or economic development projects not included under subparagraph (A), the deferment shall be repaid in equal installments, without the accrual of interest, over the 120-month period beginning on the date of the deferment, and the total amount of such payments shall be equal to the amount of the payment deferred.

(3)(A) A borrower may defer its debt service payments only in an amount equal to an investment made by such borrower as described in paragraph (2).

(B) The amount of the deferment shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of a community or economic development project for which a deferment is provided under this subsection.

(C) The total amount of deferments under this subsection during each of the fiscal years 1990 through 1993 shall not exceed 3 percent of the total payments due during such fiscal year from all borrowers on direct and insured loans made under this chapter and shall not exceed 5 percent of such total payments due in each subsequent fiscal year.

(D) At the time of a deferment, the borrower shall make a payment to a cushion of credit account established and maintained pursuant to section 940c of this title in an amount equal to the amount of the payment deferred. The balance of such account shall not be reduced by the borrower below the level of the unpaid balance of the payment deferred. Subject to limitations established in annual appropriations Acts, such cushion of credit amounts and any other cushion of credit and advance payments of any borrower shall be included in the interest differential calculation under section 940c(b)(2) of this title.

(4) The Secretary shall undertake all reasonable efforts to permit the full amount of deferments authorized by this subsection during each fiscal year.

### (c) Deferment of payments on loans

#### (1) In general

The Secretary shall allow borrowers to defer payment of principal and interest on any direct loan made under this chapter to enable the borrower to make loans to residential, commercial, and industrial consumers—

(A) to conduct energy efficiency and use audits; and

(B) to install energy efficient measures or devices that reduce the demand on electric systems.

#### (2) Amount

The total amount of a deferment under this subsection shall not exceed the sum of the principal and interest on the loans made to a customer of the borrower, as determined by the Secretary.

#### (3) Term

The term of a deferment under this subsection shall not exceed 60 months.

(May 20, 1936, ch. 432, title I, §12, 49 Stat. 1366; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 776, §§2, 4(f), 63 Stat. 948; Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, §2344, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4028; Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §235(a)(13), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3221; Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §774(b), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1150; Pub. L. 110-234, title VI, §6103, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1195; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VI, §6103, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1956; Pub. L. 115-334, title VI, §6504(a), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4773.)

## Editorial Notes

### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (b)(3)(D). Pub. L. 115-334 substituted “940c(b)(2) of this title” for “940c(b)(2)(A) of this title”.

2008—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-246, §6103, added subsec. (c).

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-127 substituted “, except that, with respect to any loan” for “; *Provided, however,* That with respect to any loan” and struck out “, and with respect to any loan made under section 905 of this title, the payment of principal or interest shall not be extended more than two years after such payment shall have become due: *And provided further,* That the provisions of this section shall not apply to any obligations or the security therefor which may be held by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation under the provisions of section 903 of this title” after “such payment shall have become due”.

1994—Subsecs. (a), (b)(1), (4). Pub. L. 103-354 substituted “Secretary” for “Administrator” wherever appearing.

1990—Pub. L. 101-624 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1949—Act Oct. 28, 1949, inserted “or section 922” after “904” in first proviso, and inserted “title I,” in credit of act May 20, 1936.

## Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

## § 912a. Rescheduling and refinancing of loans

In addition to the loan extension authority provided in section 912 of this title, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to adjust and readjust the schedules for payment of principal and interest on loans to borrowers under programs administered by the Secretary under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), and to extend the maturity date of any such loan to a date not beyond forty years from the date of such loan where he determines such action is necessary because of the impairment of the economic feasibility of the system, or the loss, destruction, or damage of the property of such borrowers as a result of a major disaster.

(Pub. L. 91-606, title II, §236(a), Dec. 31, 1970, 84 Stat. 1754; Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §235(b)(1), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3221.)