

(Pub. L. 98-590, §12, Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 3123; Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §605(k), June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 600.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-185 reenacted section catchline without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “For the purpose of ascertaining whether issuance of an order is approved or favored by producers and importers, the Secretary shall conduct a referendum among those producers and importers not exempt under section 4606(e)(2) of this title who, during a representative period determined by the Secretary, have been engaged in the production and importation of honey. No order issued pursuant to this chapter shall be effective unless the Secretary determines that the issuance of such an order is approved or favored by not less than two-thirds of the producers and importers voting in such referendum or by a majority of the producers and importers voting in such referendum if such majority produced and imported not less than two-thirds of the honey produced and imported during the representative period. The ballots and other information or reports which reveal, or tend to reveal, the vote of any producer or importer of honey shall be held strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed.”

§ 4612. Termination or suspension

(a) “Person” defined

In this section, the term “person” means a producer, importer, or handler.

(b) Authority of Secretary

If the Secretary finds that an order issued under this chapter, or any provision of the order, obstructs or does not tend to effectuate the purposes of this chapter, the Secretary shall terminate or suspend the operation of the order or provision.

(c) Periodic referenda

Except as provided in subsection (d)(3) and section 4613(g) of this title, on the date that is 5 years after the date on which the Secretary issues an order authorizing the collection of assessments on honey or honey products under this chapter, and every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary shall conduct a referendum to determine if the persons subject to assessment under the order approve continuation of the order in accordance with section 4611 of this title.

(d) Referenda on request

(1) In general

On the request of the Honey Board or the petition of at least 10 percent of the total number of persons subject to assessment under the order, the Secretary shall conduct a referendum to determine if the persons subject to assessment under the order approve continuation of the order in accordance with section 4611 of this title.

(2) Limitation

Referenda conducted under paragraph (1) may not be held more than once every 2 years.

(3) Effect on periodic referenda

If a referendum is conducted under this subsection and the Secretary determines that continuation of the order is approved under

section 4611 of this title, any referendum otherwise required to be conducted under subsection (c) shall not be held before the date that is 5 years after the date of the referendum conducted under this subsection.

(e) Timing and requirements for termination or suspension

(1) In general

The Secretary shall terminate or suspend an order at the end of the marketing year during which a referendum is conducted under subsection (c) or (d) if the Secretary determines that continuation of an order is not approved under section 4611 of this title.

(2) Subsequent referendum

If the Secretary terminates or suspends an order that assesses the handling of honey and honey products under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, not later than 90 days after submission of a proposed order by an interested party—

(A) propose another order to establish a research, promotion, and consumer information program; and

(B) conduct a referendum on the order among persons that would be subject to assessment under the order.

(3) Effectiveness of order

Section 4611 of this title shall apply in determining the effectiveness of the subsequent amended order under paragraph (2).

(Pub. L. 98-590, §13, Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 3123; Pub. L. 101-624, title XIX, §1985, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3907; Pub. L. 105-185, title VI, §605(l), June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 601.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-185 amended section catchline and text generally, substituting present provisions for provisions which in subsec. (a) authorized Secretary to terminate or suspend order, in subsec. (b) provided for conducting of referendum every five years and alternative first referendum, in subsec. (c) provided for referendum upon request of Honey Board or petition of ten percent or more of producers and importers, and in subsec. (d) directed termination or suspension of order where favored by majority voting in referendum and majority produce and import more than 50 percent of volume of honey of those voting.

1990—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101-624, §1985(a), designated existing provisions as par. (1), substituted “Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2), five” for “Five” and “termination” for “continuation, termination,” and added par. (2).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 101-624, §1985(b), substituted “an order” for “such order”, inserted “in which a referendum is conducted under subsection (b) or (c) of this section” after “marketing year”, and struck out “of the order” before “is favored by”.

§ 4613. Implementation of amendments made by Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998

(a) Issuance of amended order

To implement the amendments made to this chapter by section 605 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (other than subsection (m) of that section),