

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.

§ 7001. Conforming amendments relating to National Appeals Division

(a) Decisions of State, county, and area committees

(1) Application of subsection

(A) In general

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), this subsection shall apply only with respect to functions of the Farm Service Agency or the Commodity Credit Corporation that are under the jurisdiction of a State, county, or area committee established under section 590h(b)(5) of title 16 or an employee of such a committee.

(B) Nonapplicability

This subsection does not apply to—

(i) a function performed under section 2008k of this title; or

(ii) a function performed under a conservation program administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(2) Finality

Each decision of a State, county, or area committee (or an employee of such a committee) covered by paragraph (1) that is made in good faith in the absence of misrepresentation, false statement, fraud, or willful misconduct shall be final not later than 90 days after the date of filing of the application for benefits, unless the decision, before the end of the 90-day period, is—

(A) appealed under this subchapter; or

(B) modified by the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency or the Executive Vice President of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

(3) Recovery of amounts

If the decision of the State, county, or area committee has become final under paragraph (2), no action may be taken by the Farm Service Agency, the Commodity Credit Corporation, or a State, county, or area committee to recover amounts found to have been disbursed as a result of a decision in error unless the participant had reason to believe that the decision was erroneous.

(4) Savings provision

For purposes of this subsection, a reference to the “Farm Service Agency” includes any other office, agency, or administrative unit of the Department assigned the functions authorized for the Farm Service Agency under section 6932 of this title.

(b), (c) Omitted

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §281, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3233; Pub. L. 107-171, title I, §1613(i), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 221.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of section 281 of Pub. L. 103-354. Subsecs. (b) and (c) of section 281 of Pub. L. 103-354 re-

pealed sections 1433e and 1983b of this title, respectively.

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 107-171, §1613(i)(1), (2), designated existing provisions as subpar. (A), inserted heading, substituted “Except as provided in subparagraph (B), this subsection” for “This subsection” and “Farm Service Agency” for “Consolidated Farm Service Agency”, and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 107-171, §1613(i)(3), inserted “, before the end of the 90-day period,” after “unless the decision” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(2)(B), (3), (4). Pub. L. 107-171, §1613(i)(1), substituted “Farm Service Agency” for “Consolidated Farm Service Agency” wherever appearing.

§ 7002. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the activities of the Division.

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §283, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3235.)

SUBCHAPTER VIII—A—MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

§ 7005. Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs

(a) Authorization

The Secretary is authorized to establish in the Department the position of Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

(b) Confirmation required

If the Secretary establishes the position of Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs authorized under subsection (a), the Under Secretary shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(c) Functions of Under Secretary

(1) Principal functions

Upon establishment, the Secretary shall delegate to the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs those functions and duties under the jurisdiction of the Department that are related to agricultural marketing, animal and plant health inspection, grain inspection, and packers and stockyards.

(2) Additional functions

The Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs shall perform such other functions and duties as may be required by law or prescribed by the Secretary.

(d) Succession

Any official who is serving as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs on October 21, 1998, and who was appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall not be required to be reappointed under subsection (b) to the successor position authorized under subsection (a) if the Secretary establishes the position, and the official occupies the new position, within 180 days after October 21, 1998 (or such

later date set by the Secretary if litigation delays rapid succession).

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 285, as added Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, § 101(a) [title X, § 1001(3)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681-41.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of section 285 of Pub. L. 103-354, as added by Pub. L. 105-277, Subsec. (e) of section 285 of Pub. L. 103-354 amended section 5314 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

SUBCHAPTER VIII-B—TRADE AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

§ 7007. Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs

(a) Establishment

There is established in the Department the position of Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs.

(b) Appointment

The Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(c) Functions

(1) Principal functions

The Secretary shall delegate to the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs those functions and duties under the jurisdiction of the Department that are related to trade and foreign agricultural affairs.

(2) Additional functions

The Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs shall perform such other functions and duties as may be—

- (A) required by law; or
- (B) prescribed by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, § 287, as added Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, § 12413(2), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4980.)

SUBCHAPTER IX—MISCELLANEOUS REORGANIZATION PROVISIONS

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

This subchapter was originally added as subtitle I of title II of Pub. L. 103-354, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3235, and subsequently redesignated subtitle J of title II of Pub. L. 103-354 by Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, § 101(a) [title X, § 1001(2)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681-41, and then subtitle K of title II of Pub. L. 103-354 by Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, § 12413(1), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4980.

§ 7011. Successorship provisions relating to bargaining units and exclusive representatives

(a) Voluntary agreement

(1) In general

If the exercise of the Secretary's authority under this chapter results in changes to an existing bargaining unit that has been certified

under chapter 71 of title 5, the affected parties shall attempt to reach a voluntary agreement on a new bargaining unit and an exclusive representative for such unit.

(2) Criteria

In carrying out the requirements of this subsection, the affected parties shall use criteria set forth in—

(A) sections 7103(a)(4), 7111(e), 7111(f)(1), and 7120 of title 5, relating to determining an exclusive representative; and

(B) section 7112 of title 5 (disregarding subsections (b)(5) and (d) thereof), relating to determining appropriate units.

(b) Effect of an agreement

(1) In general

If the affected parties reach agreement on the appropriate unit and the exclusive representative for such unit under subsection (a), the Federal Labor Relations Authority shall certify the terms of such agreement, subject to paragraph (2)(A). Nothing in this subsection shall be considered to require the holding of any hearing or election as a condition for certification.

(2) Restrictions

(A) Conditions requiring noncertification

The Federal Labor Relations Authority may not certify the terms of an agreement under paragraph (1) if—

- (i) it determines that any of the criteria referred to in subsection (a)(2) (disregarding section 7112(a) of title 5) have not been met; or
- (ii) after the Secretary's exercise of authority and before certification under this section, a valid election under section 7111(b) of title 5 is held covering any employees who would be included in the unit proposed for certification.

(B) Temporary waiver of provision that would bar an election after a collective bargaining agreement is reached

Nothing in section 7111(f)(3) of title 5 shall prevent the holding of an election under section 7111(b) of such title that covers employees within a unit certified under paragraph (1), or giving effect to the results of such an election (including a decision not to be represented by any labor organization), if the election is held before the end of the 12-month period beginning on the date such unit is so certified.

(C) Clarification

The certification of a unit under paragraph (1) shall not, for purposes of the last sentence of section 7111(b) of title 5 or section 7111(f)(4) of such title, be treated as if it had occurred pursuant to an election.

(3) Delegation

(A) In general

The Federal Labor Relations Authority may delegate to any regional director (as referred to in section 7105(e) of title 5) its authority under the preceding provisions of this subsection.