

For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6901 of this title and Tables.

Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), is Reorg. Plan No. 2 of 1953, June 4, 1953, 18 F.R. 3219, 67 Stat. 633, as amended, which is set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

The Agricultural Act of 2014, referred to in subsec. (b)(8), is Pub. L. 113-79, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 649. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 9001 of this title and Tables.

Section 772 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018, referred to in subsec. (b)(9), is section 772 of title VII of div. A of Pub. L. 115-141, Mar. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 397. Subsec. (a)(2) of section 772 of Pub. L. 115-141 is classified to section 6931 of this title. The remainder of section 772 of Pub. L. 115-141 is not classified to the Code.

The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, referred to in subsec. (b)(10), is Pub. L. 115-334, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4490. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2018 Amendment note set out under section 9001 of this title and Tables.

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 L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub.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)(6)(B). Pub. L. 115-334, §12411(b)(2), substituted “Office of the Chief Scientist” for “Research, Education, and Extension Office”.

Subsec. (b)(9), (10). Pub. L. 115-334, §12416, added pars. (9) and (10).

2014—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-79, §1610(b)(2)–(4), substituted “The authority” for “the authority” in pars. (1) to (7), a period for semicolon at end of pars. (1) to (5), and a period for “; or” at end of par. (6)(C).

Pub. L. 113-79, §1610(b)(1), substituted “affect:” for “affect—” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 113-79, §1610(b)(5), added par. (8).

2008—Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 110-246, §7511(b), added par. (6).

Subsec. (b)(7). Pub. L. 110-246, §14013(b), added par. (7).

2002—Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 107-171 added par. (5).

1998—Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 105-277 added par. (4).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

Reference to the Office of Advocacy and Outreach deemed to be a reference to the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, see section 12406(a)(2) of Pub. L. 115-334, set out as a note under section 6934 of this title.

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.

SUBCHAPTER X—FREEDOM TO E-FILE

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

This subchapter was enacted as part of the Freedom to E-File Act, and not as part of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 which in part comprises this chapter.

§ 7031. Electronic filing and retrieval

(a) In general

Not later than 180 days after June 20, 2000, in accordance with subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this subchapter as the “Secretary”) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, establish an Internet-based system that enables agricultural producers to access all forms of the agencies of the Department of Agriculture (referred to in this subchapter as the “Department”) specified in subsection (b).

(b) Applicability

The agencies referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) The Farm Service Agency.

(2) The Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(3) The rural development components of the Department included in the Secretary’s service center initiative regarding State and field office collocation implemented pursuant to section 6915 of this title.

(4) The agricultural producer programs component of the Commodity Credit Corporation administered by the Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(c) Implementation

In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) provide a method by which agricultural producers may—

(A) download from the Internet the forms of the agencies specified in subsection (b); and

(B) submit completed forms via electronic facsimile, mail, or similar means;

(2) redesign the forms by incorporating into the forms user-friendly formats and self-help guidance materials; and

(3) ensure that the agencies specified in subsection (b)—

(A) use computer hardware and software that is compatible among the agencies and will operate in a common computing environment; and

(B) develop common Internet user-interface locations and applications to consolidate the agencies’ news, information, and program materials.

(d) Progress reports

Not later than 180 days after June 20, 2000, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes the progress made toward implementing the Internet-based system required under this section.

(Pub. L. 106-222, §2, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 353.)

§ 7032. Accessing information and filing over the Internet

(a) In general

Not later than 2 years after June 20, 2000, in accordance with subsection (b), the Secretary shall expand implementation of the Internet-based system established under section 7031 of this title by enabling agricultural producers to access and file all forms and, at the option of the Secretary, selected records and information