

**Act of March 3, 1927**

[Public Law 69–337]

[As Amended Through P.L. 117–286, Enacted December 27, 2022]

【Currency: This publication is a compilation of the text of Public Law 69-337. It was last amended by the public law listed in the As Amended Through note above and below at the bottom of each page of the pdf version and reflects current law through the date of the enactment of the public law listed at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/comps/>】

【Note: While this publication does not represent an official version of any Federal statute, substantial efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of its contents. The official version of Federal law is found in the United States Statutes at Large and in the United States Code. The legal effect to be given to the Statutes at Large and the United States Code is established by statute (1 U.S.C. 112, 204).】

AN ACT Authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to collect and publish statistics of the grade and staple length of cotton.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

\* \* \* \* \*

**SEC. 3a. COTTON CLASSIFICATION SERVICES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall—

(1) make cotton classification services available to producers of cotton; and

(2) provide for the collection of classification fees from participating producers or agents that voluntarily agree to collect and remit the fees on behalf of producers.

(b) FEES.—

(1) USE OF FEES.—Classification fees collected under subsection (a)(2) and the proceeds from the sales of samples submitted under this section shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be used to pay the cost of the services provided under this section, including administrative and supervisory costs.

(2) ANNOUNCEMENT OF FEES.—The Secretary shall announce a uniform classification fee and any applicable surcharge for classification services not later than June 1 of the year in which the fee applies.

(c) CONSULTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In establishing the amount of fees under this section, the Secretary shall consult with representatives of the United States cotton industry.

(2) EXEMPTION.—Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to consultations with representatives of the United States cotton industry under this section.

(d) CREDITING OF FEES.—Any fees collected under this section and under section 3d, late payment penalties, the proceeds from the sales of samples, and interest earned from the investment of such funds shall—

(1) be credited to the current appropriation account that incurs the cost of services provided under this section and section 3d; and

(2) remain available without fiscal year limitation to pay the expenses of the Secretary in providing those services.

(e) INVESTMENT OF FUNDS.—Funds described in subsection (d) may be invested—

(1) by the Secretary in insured or fully collateralized, interest-bearing accounts; or

(2) at the discretion of the Secretary, by the Secretary of the Treasury in United States Government debt instruments.

(f) LEASE AGREEMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may enter into long-term lease agreements that exceed 5 years or may take title to property (including through purchase agreements) for the purpose of obtaining offices to be used for the classification of cotton in accordance with this Act, if the Secretary determines that action would best effectuate the purposes of this Act.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To the extent that financing is not available from fees and the proceeds from the sales of samples, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.