

Public Law 100-236  
100th Congress

An Act

To amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for the selection of the court of appeals to decide multiple appeals filed with respect to the same agency order.

Jan. 8, 1988

[H.R. 1162]

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

SECTION 1. SELECTION OF COURT FOR MULTIPLE APPEALS.

Section 2112(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking out the last three sentences and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "If proceedings are instituted in two or more courts of appeals with respect to the same order, the following shall apply:

"(1) If within ten days after issuance of the order the agency, board, commission, or officer concerned receives, from the persons instituting the proceedings, the petition for review with respect to proceedings in at least two courts of appeals, the agency, board, commission, or officer shall proceed in accordance with paragraph (3) of this subsection. If within ten days after the issuance of the order the agency, board, commission, or officer concerned receives, from the persons instituting the proceedings, the petition for review with respect to proceedings in only one court of appeals, the agency, board, commission, or officer shall file the record in that court notwithstanding the institution in any other court of appeals of proceedings for review of that order. In all other cases in which proceedings have been instituted in two or more courts of appeals with respect to the same order, the agency, board, commission, or officer concerned shall file the record in the court in which proceedings with respect to the order were first instituted.

"(2) For purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, a copy of the petition or other pleading which institutes proceedings in a court of appeals and which is stamped by the court with the date of filing shall constitute the petition for review. Each agency, board, commission, or officer, as the case may be, shall designate by rule the office and the officer who must receive petitions for review under paragraph (1).

"(3) If an agency, board, commission, or officer receives two or more petitions for review of an order in accordance with the first sentence of paragraph (1) of this subsection, the agency, board, commission, or officer shall, promptly after the expiration of the ten-day period specified in that sentence, so notify the judicial panel on multidistrict litigation authorized by section 1407 of this title, in such form as that panel shall prescribe. The judicial panel on multidistrict litigation shall, by means of random selection, designate one court of appeals, from among the courts of appeals in which petitions for review have been filed and received within the ten-day period specified in the first sentence of paragraph (1), in which the record is to be filed, and shall issue an order consolidating the petitions for review in that court of appeals. The judicial panel on multidistrict litiga-

tion shall, after providing notice to the public and an opportunity for the submission of comments, prescribe rules with respect to the consolidation of proceedings under this paragraph. The agency, board, commission, or officer concerned shall file the record in the court of appeals designated pursuant to this paragraph.

"(4) Any court of appeals in which proceedings with respect to an order of an agency, board, commission, or officer have been instituted may, to the extent authorized by law, stay the effective date of the order. Any such stay may thereafter be modified, revoked, or extended by a court of appeals designated pursuant to paragraph (3) with respect to that order or by any other court of appeals to which the proceedings are transferred.

"(5) All courts in which proceedings are instituted with respect to the same order, other than the court in which the record is filed pursuant to this subsection, shall transfer those proceedings to the court in which the record is so filed. For the convenience of the parties in the interest of justice, the court in which the record is filed may thereafter transfer all the proceedings with respect to that order to any other court of appeals."

#### SEC. 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

Section 509(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1369(b)) is amended by striking out paragraph (3) and redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3).

#### SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that the judicial panel on multidistrict litigation may issue rules pursuant to subsection (a)(3) of section 2112 of title 28, United States Code (as added by section 1), on or after such date of enactment.

Approved January 8, 1988.

28 USC 2112  
note.

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1162 (S. 1134):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 100-72 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 100-263 accompanying S. 1134 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 133 (1987):

May 27, considered and passed House.

Dec. 19, S. 1134 and H.R. 1162 considered and passed Senate.