Public Law 106–47
106th Congress

An Act

Aug. 13, 1999
[S. 1543]

To amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 to release and protect the release of tobacco production and marketing information.

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

SECTION 1. TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND MARKETING INFORMATION.

Part I of subtitle B of title III of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1311 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

7 USC 1314j.

"SEC. 320D. TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND MARKETING INFORMATION.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may, subject to subsection (b), release marketing information submitted by persons relating to the production and marketing of tobacco to State trusts or similar organizations engaged in the distribution of national trust funds to tobacco producers and other persons with interests associated with the production of tobacco, as determined by the Secretary.

"(b) LIMITATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Information may be released under subsection (a) only to the extent that—

"(A) the release is in the interest of tobacco producers, as determined by the Secretary; and

"(B) the information is released to a State trust or other organization that is created to, or charged with, distributing funds to tobacco producers or other parties with an interest in tobacco production or tobacco farms under a national or State trust or settlement.

"(2) EXEMPTION FROM RELEASE.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, in advance of making a release of information under subsection (a), allow, by announcement, a period of at least 15 days for persons whose consent would otherwise be required by law to effectuate the release, to elect to be exempt from the release.

"(c) ASSISTANCE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In making a release under subsection (a), the Secretary may provide such other assistance with respect to information released under subsection (a) as will facilitate the interest of producers in receiving the funds that are the subject of a trust described in subsection (a).

"(2) FUNDS.—The Secretary shall use amounts made available for salaries and expenses of the Department to carry out paragraph (1).

"(d) RECORDS.—

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"(1) IN GENERAL.—A person that obtains information described in subsection (a) shall maintain records that are consistent with the purposes of the release and shall not use the records for any purpose not authorized under this section.

"(2) PENALTY.—A person that knowingly violates this subsection shall be fined not more than $10,000, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

"(e) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply to—

"(1) records submitted by cigarette manufacturers with respect to the production of cigarettes;

"(2) records that were submitted as expected purchase intentions in connection with the establishment of national tobacco quotas; or

"(3) records that aggregate the purchases of particular buyers.".

Approved August 13, 1999.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 1543:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 145 (1999):
Aug. 5, considered and passed Senate and House.