

ported merchandise or regarding the duties, fees, and taxes charged thereon,

(2) the collection of any dues, charges, duties, fees, and taxes on or on account of any imported merchandise, or

(3) any other matter or thing as to which any person might under this chapter be entitled to protest or appeal from the decision of such officer.

(June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, §513, 46 Stat. 734; Pub. L. 91-271, title III, §301(r), June 2, 1970, 84 Stat. 290; Pub. L. 103-182, title VI, §644, Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2206.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions substantially the same as those in this section, except that they did not specifically refer to rulings or decisions as to appraisement, were contained in act Oct. 3, 1913, ch. 16, §III, Z, 38 Stat. 191, which reenacted without change the provisions of the Customs Administrative Act of June 10, 1890, ch. 407, §25, 26 Stat. 141, as reenacted by the Payne-Aldrich Tariff Act of Aug. 5, 1909, ch. 6, §28, 36 Stat. 103. Section III, Z, of the 1913 act was superseded and more closely assimilated to this section by act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §513, 42 Stat. 969, and repealed by section 643 thereof. Section 513 of the 1922 act was superseded by section 513 of act June 17, 1930, comprising this section, and repealed by section 651(a)(1) of the 1930 act.

#### AMENDMENTS

1993—Pub. L. 103-182 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “No customs officer shall be in any way liable to any owner, importer, consignee, or agent or any other person for or on account of any rulings or decisions as to the appraisement or the classification of any imported merchandise or the duties charged thereon, or the collection of any dues, charges, or duties on or on account of said merchandise, or any other matter or thing as to which said owner, importer, consignee, or agent might under this chapter be entitled to protest or appeal from the decision of such officer.”

1970—Pub. L. 91-271 substituted “customs officer” for “collector or other customs officer” and “such officer” for “such collector or other officer”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 91-271, see section 203 of Pub. L. 91-271, set out as a note under section 1500 of this title.

### § 1514. Protest against decisions of Customs Service

#### (a) Finality of decisions; return of papers

Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, section 1501 of this title (relating to voluntary reliquidations), section 1516 of this title (relating to petitions by domestic interested parties), section 1520 of this title (relating to refunds), and section 6501 of title 26 (but only with respect to taxes imposed under chapters 51 and 52 of such title), any clerical error, mistake of fact, or other inadvertence, whether or not resulting from or contained in an electronic transmission, adverse to the importer, in any entry, liquidation, or reliquidation, and, decisions of the Customs Service, including the legality of all orders and findings entering into the same, as to—

- (1) the appraised value of merchandise;
- (2) the classification and rate and amount of duties chargeable;

(3) all charges or exactions of whatever character within the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Treasury;

(4) the exclusion of merchandise from entry or delivery or a demand for redelivery to customs custody under any provision of the customs laws, except a determination appealable under section 1337 of this title;

(5) the liquidation or reliquidation of an entry, or reconciliation as to the issues contained therein, or any modification thereof, including the liquidation of an entry, pursuant to either section 1500 of this title or section 1504 of this title;

(6) the refusal to pay a claim for drawback;

or

(7) the refusal to reliquidate an entry under subsection (d) of section 1520 of this title;

shall be final and conclusive upon all persons (including the United States and any officer thereof) unless a protest is filed in accordance with this section, or unless a civil action contesting the denial of a protest, in whole or in part, is commenced in the United States Court of International Trade in accordance with chapter 169 of title 28 within the time prescribed by section 2636 of that title. When a judgment or order of the United States Court of International Trade has become final, the papers transmitted shall be returned, together with a copy of the judgment or order to the Customs Service, which shall take action accordingly.

#### (b) Finality of determinations

With respect to determinations made under section 1303<sup>1</sup> of this title or subtitle IV of this chapter which are reviewable under section 1516a of this title, determinations of the Customs Service are final and conclusive upon all persons (including the United States and any officer thereof) unless a civil action contesting a determination listed in section 1516a of this title is commenced in the United States Court of International Trade, or review by a binational panel of a determination to which section 1516a(g)(2) of this title applies is commenced pursuant to section 1516a(g) of this title and article 1904 of the North American Free Trade Agreement or the United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement.

#### (c) Form, number, and amendment of protest; filing of protest

(1) A protest of a decision made under subsection (a) of this section shall be filed in writing, or transmitted electronically pursuant to an electronic data interchange system, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary. A protest must set forth distinctly and specifically—

(A) each decision described in subsection (a) of this section as to which protest is made;

(B) each category of merchandise affected by each decision set forth under paragraph (1);

(C) the nature of each objection and the reasons therefor; and

(D) any other matter required by the Secretary by regulation.

Only one protest may be filed for each entry of merchandise, except that where the entry covers

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

merchandise of different categories, a separate protest may be filed for each category. In addition, separate protests filed by different authorized persons with respect to any one category of merchandise, or with respect to a determination of origin under section 3332 of this title, that is the subject of a protest are deemed to be part of a single protest. Unless a request for accelerated disposition is filed under section 1515(b) of this title, a protest may be amended, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, to set forth objections as to a decision or decisions described in subsection (a) of this section which were not the subject of the original protest, in the form and manner prescribed for a protest, any time prior to the expiration of the time in which such protest could have been filed under this section. New grounds in support of objections raised by a valid protest or amendment thereto may be presented for consideration in connection with the review of such protest pursuant to section 1515 of this title at any time prior to the disposition of the protest in accordance with that section.

(2) Except as provided in sections 1485(d) and 1557(b) of this title, protests may be filed with respect to merchandise which is the subject of a decision specified in subsection (a) of this section by—

(A) the importers or consignees shown on the entry papers, or their sureties;

(B) any person paying any charge or exaction;

(C) any person seeking entry or delivery;

(D) any person filing a claim for drawback;

(E) with respect to a determination of origin under section 3332 of this title, any exporter or producer of the merchandise subject to that determination, if the exporter or producer completed and signed a NAFTA Certificate of Origin covering the merchandise; or

(F) any authorized agent of any of the persons described in clauses (A) through (E).

(3) A protest of a decision, order, or finding described in subsection (a) of this section shall be filed with the Customs Service within 180 days after but not before—

(A) date of liquidation or reliquidation, or

(B) in circumstances where subparagraph (A) is inapplicable, the date of the decision as to which protest is made.

A protest by a surety which has an unsatisfied legal claim under its bond may be filed within 180 days from the date of mailing of notice of demand for payment against its bond. If another party has not filed a timely protest, the surety's protest shall certify that it is not being filed collusively to extend another authorized person's time to protest as specified in this subsection.

**(d) Limitation on protest of reliquidation**

The reliquidation of an entry shall not open such entry so that a protest may be filed against the decision of the Customs Service upon any question not involved in such reliquidation.

**(e) Advance notice of certain determinations**

Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, an exporter or producer referred to in subsection (c)(2)(E) of this section shall be provided notice in advance of an adverse determination of

origin under section 3332 of this title. The Secretary may, by regulations, prescribe the time period in which such advance notice shall be issued and authorize the Customs Service to provide in the notice the entry number and any other entry information considered necessary to allow the exporter or producer to exercise the rights provided by this section.

**(f) Denial of preferential treatment**

If the Customs Service finds indications of a pattern of conduct by an exporter or producer of false or unsupported representations that goods qualify under the rules of origin set out in section 3332 of this title—

(1) the Customs Service, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary, may deny preferential tariff treatment to entries of identical goods exported or produced by that person; and

(2) the advance notice requirement in subsection (e) of this section shall not apply to that person;

until the person establishes to the satisfaction of the Customs Service that its representations are in conformity with section 3332 of this title.

**(g) Denial of preferential tariff treatment under United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement**

If the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection or the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement finds indications of a pattern of conduct by an importer of false or unsupported representations that goods qualify under the rules of origin set out in section 202 of the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, may deny preferential tariff treatment under the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement to entries of identical goods imported by that person until the person establishes to the satisfaction of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection that representations of that person are in conformity with such section 202.

**(h) Denial of preferential tariff treatment under the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement**

If the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection or the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement finds indications of a pattern of conduct by an importer, exporter, or producer of false or unsupported representations that goods qualify under the rules of origin set out in section 4033 of this title, the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, may suspend preferential tariff treatment under the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement to entries of identical goods covered by subsequent representations by that importer, exporter, or producer until the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection determines that representations of that person are in conformity with such section 4033 of this title.

**(i) Denial of preferential tariff treatment under the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement**

If U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the

Department of Homeland Security finds indications of a pattern of conduct by an importer, exporter, or producer of false or unsupported representations that goods qualify under the rules of origin provided for in section 203 of the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, may suspend preferential tariff treatment under the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement to entries of identical goods covered by subsequent representations by that importer, exporter, or producer until U.S. Customs and Border Protection determines that representations of that person are in conformity with such section 203.

(June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, § 514, 46 Stat. 734; Pub. L. 91-271, title II, § 207, June 2, 1970, 84 Stat. 284; Pub. L. 96-39, title X, § 1001(b)(3), July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 305; Pub. L. 96-417, title VI, §§ 601(5), 605, Oct. 10, 1980, 94 Stat. 1744; Pub. L. 98-573, title VI, § 612(b)(1), Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 3034; Pub. L. 99-514, title XVIII, § 1888(4), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2924; Pub. L. 100-449, title IV, § 403(b), Sept. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 1884; Pub. L. 103-182, title II, § 208, title IV, § 412(a), title VI, § 645, Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2097, 2146, 2206; Pub. L. 104-295, § 21(e)(7), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3531; Pub. L. 106-36, title II, § 2408(b), June 25, 1999, 113 Stat. 171; Pub. L. 108-77, title II, § 205(b), Sept. 3, 2003, 117 Stat. 931; Pub. L. 108-429, title II, § 2103, Dec. 3, 2004, 118 Stat. 2597; Pub. L. 109-53, title II, § 206(b), Aug. 2, 2005, 119 Stat. 484; Pub. L. 109-280, title XIV, § 1635(f)(7), Aug. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 1171; Pub. L. 110-138, title II, § 205(b), Dec. 14, 2007, 121 Stat. 1476; Pub. L. 111-3, title VII, § 702(c)(1), Feb. 4, 2009, 123 Stat. 110.)

#### AMENDMENT OF SECTION

*For termination of amendment by section 107(c) of Pub. L. 110-138, see Effective and Termination Dates of 2007 Amendment note below.*

*For termination of amendment by section 107(d) of Pub. L. 109-53, see Effective and Termination Dates of 2005 Amendment note below.*

*For termination of amendment by section 107(c) of Pub. L. 108-77, see Effective and Termination Dates of 2003 Amendment note below.*

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1303 of this title, referred to in subsec. (b), is defined in section 1677(26) of this title to mean section 1303 as in effect on the day before Jan. 1, 1995.

Section 202 of the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, referred to in subsec. (g), is section 202 of Pub. L. 108-77, which is set out in a note under section 3805 of this title.

Section 203 of the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, referred to in subsec. (i), is section 203 of Pub. L. 110-138, which is set out in a note under section 3805 of this title.

#### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to former section 579 of this title subsequent to its classification to section 784 of title 28 prior to the general revision and enactment of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure, by act June 25, 1948, ch. 464, § 1, 62 Stat. 869.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, § 514, 42

Stat. 969. That section was superseded by section 514 of act June 17, 1930, comprising this section, and repealed by section 651(a)(1) of the 1930 act.

Provisions that the decision of the collector as to duties, including dutiable costs and charges, and as to all fees and exactions, should be final and conclusive unless a protest was filed within 30 days after ascertainment and liquidation of duties, or within 15 days after payment of fees, charges and exactions, with further provisions as to fees, transmission of the papers to the Board of General Appraisers, etc., were contained in act Oct. 3, 1913, ch. 16, § III, N, 38 Stat. 187, the provisions of which were substituted for provisions of a similar nature in the Customs Administrative Act of June 10, 1890, ch. 407, § 14, 26 Stat. 137, as amended by the Payne-Aldrich Tariff Act of Aug. 5, 1909, ch. 6, § 28, 36 Stat. 100. Section III, N, of the 1913 act was repealed by act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, § 643, 42 Stat. 989.

Provisions relating to decisions of the collector, and appeals therefrom to the Secretary of the Treasury were contained in R.S. §§ 2931, 2932, prior to repeal by section 29 of the Customs Administrative Act, 26 Stat. 141.

#### AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-3, in introductory provisions, substituted “section 1520 of this title (relating to refunds), and section 6501 of title 26 (but only with respect to taxes imposed under chapters 51 and 52 of such title)” for “and section 1520 of this title (relating to refunds)”.

2007—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 110-138, §§ 107(c), 205(b), temporarily added subsec. (i). See Effective and Termination Dates of 2007 Amendment note below.

2006—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 109-280 realigned margins of concluding provisions.

2005—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 109-53, §§ 107(d), 206(b), temporarily added subsec. (h). See Effective and Termination Dates of 2005 Amendment note below.

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-429, § 2103(1)(A), substituted “(relating to refunds), any clerical error, mistake of fact, or other inadvertence, whether or not resulting from or contained in an electronic transmission, adverse to the importer, in any entry, liquidation, or reliquidation, and” for “(relating to refunds and errors)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 108-429, § 2103(1)(B), inserted “, including the liquidation of an entry, pursuant to either section 1500 of this title or section 1504 of this title” after “thereof”.

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 108-429, § 2103(1)(C), struck out “(c) or” after “subsection”.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 108-429, § 2103(2)(A), which directed substitution of “Unless a request for accelerated disposition is filed under section 1515(b) of this title, a protest may be amended,” for “A protest may be amended,” in the sixth sentence, was executed by making the substitution in the fifth sentence, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 108-429, § 2103(2)(B)(i), (iii), substituted “180 days” for “ninety days” in introductory provisions and “180 days” for “90 days” in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (c)(3)(A). Pub. L. 108-429, § 2103(2)(B)(ii), substituted “date of” for “notice of”.

2003—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 108-77, §§ 107(c), 205(b), temporarily added subsec. (g). See Effective and Termination Dates of 2003 Amendment note below.

1999—Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 106-36 substituted “subsection (c) or (d) of section 1520” for “section 1520(c)”.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-295 substituted “and section 1520 of this title (relating to refunds and errors)” for “section 1520 of this title (relating to refunds and errors), and section 1521 of this title (relating to reliquidations on account of fraud)”.

1993—Pub. L. 103-182, § 645(7), amended section catchline generally.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-182, § 645(1), in introductory provisions, substituted “Customs Service” for “appropriate customs officer”, in par. (5), inserted “or rec-

conciliation as to the issues contained therein,” after “entry,” in par. (6), substituted “or” for “and” at end, in par. (7), substituted a semicolon for the comma at end, and in concluding provisions, substituted “Customs Service, which” for “appropriate customs officer, who”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103-182, §645(2), substituted “Customs Service” for “appropriate customs officer”.

Pub. L. 103-182, §412(a), inserted “the North American Free Trade Agreement or” before “the United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement”.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 103-182, §208(1), inserted in fourth sentence “, or with respect to a determination of origin under section 3332 of this title,” after “with respect to any one category of merchandise”. See Construction of 1993 Amendment note below.

Pub. L. 103-182, §645(3), substituted first two sentences, including subpars. (A) to (D), for former first sentence which read as follows: “A protest of a decision under subsection (a) of this section shall be filed in writing with the appropriate customs officer designated in regulations prescribed by the Secretary, setting forth distinctly and specifically each decision described in subsection (a) of this section as to which protest is made; each category of merchandise affected by each such decision as to which protest is made; and the nature of each objection and reasons therefor.” See Construction of 1993 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 103-182, §208(2), added subpar. (E) and redesignated former subpar. (E) as (F) and substituted “clauses (A) through (E)” for “clauses (A) through (D)”. See Construction of 1993 Amendment note below.

Pub. L. 103-182, §645(5), designated last sentence of par. (1) as par. (2). Former par. (2) redesignated (3). See Construction of 1993 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 103-182, §645(4), redesignated par. (2) as (3) and substituted “the Customs Service” for “such customs officer” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 103-182, §645(6), substituted “Customs Service” for “customs officer”.

Subsecs. (e), (f). Pub. L. 103-182, §208(3), added subsecs. (e) and (f).

1988—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-449 inserted “, or review by a binational panel of a determination to which section 1516a(g)(2) of this title applies is commenced pursuant to section 1516a(g) of this title and article 1904 of the United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement” before period at end.

1986—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 99-514 struck out “as defined in section 1677(9)(C), (D), (E), and (F) of this title” after “domestic interested parties”.

1984—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 98-573 substituted “section 1677(9)(C), (D), (E), and (F) of this title” for “section 1677(9)(C), (D), and (E) of this title” in provisions preceding par. (1).

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-417, §§601(5), 605, redesignated the United States Customs Court as the United States Court of International Trade, inserted in item (4) provision for decisions as to a demand for redelivery to customs custody and the phrase “, except a determination appealable under section 1337 of this title” and substituted provision for contesting denial of a protest in accordance with chapter 169 of title 28 within the time prescribed by section 2636 of that title for provision for such contest in accordance with section 2632 of title 28 within the time prescribed by section 2631 of that title.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-417, §601(5), redesignated the United States Customs Court as the United States Court of International Trade.

1979—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-39, §1001(b)(3)(A), (B), inserted reference to subsection (b) of this section and substituted “section 1516 of this title (relating to petitions by domestic interested parties as defined in section 1677(9)(C), (D), and (E) of this title)” for “section 1516 of this title (relating to petitions by American manufacturers, producers, and wholesalers)” in provisions preceding par. (1).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-39, §1001(b)(3)(D), added subsec. (b). Former subsec. (b) redesignated (c).

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 96-39, §1001(b)(3)(C), (E), redesignated former subsec. (b)(1) as (c)(1) and substituted provisions that, except as provided in sections 1485(d) and 1557(b) of this title, protests may be filed by importers or consignees or their sureties, persons paying a charge or exaction, persons seeking entry or delivery, persons filing a claim for drawback, and authorized agents of such persons for provisions that, except as otherwise provided in section 1557(b) of this title, protests could be filed only by importers, consignees, or the authorized agents of persons paying any charges, or exactions, persons filing claims for drawback, or persons seeking entry or delivery.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 96-39, §1001(b)(3)(C), (F), redesignated former subsec. (b)(2) as (c)(2) and inserted provision that a protest by a surety which has an unsatisfied legal claim under its bond may be filed within 90 days from the date of mailing of notice of demand for payment against its bond and that, if another party has not filed a timely protest, the surety’s protest shall certify that it is not being filed collusively to extend another authorized person’s time to protest as specified in this subsection.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-39, §1001(b)(3)(C), redesignated former subsec. (c) as (d).

1970—Pub. L. 91-271 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), expanded references to sections excepted from application of this section, substituted decisions of the appropriate customs officer for all decisions of the collector as deemed to be final and conclusive, reorganized the categories of decisions and findings subject to such finality and conclusiveness, and revised the procedures for filing of protests, and added subsecs. (b) and (c).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Except as otherwise provided, amendment by Pub. L. 111-3 effective Apr. 1, 2009, see section 3 of Pub. L. 111-3, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1396 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

Pub. L. 111-3, title VII, §702(c)(2), Feb. 4, 2009, 123 Stat. 110, provided that: “The amendment made by this subsection [amending this section] shall apply to articles imported after the date of the enactment of this Act [Feb. 4, 2009].”

#### EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 2007 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 110-138 effective on the date the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement enters into force (Feb. 1, 2009) and to cease to be effective on the date the Agreement ceases to be in force, see section 107(a), (c) of Pub. L. 110-138, set out in a note under section 3805 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 109-280 applicable with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after Aug. 17, 2006, see section 1641 of Pub. L. 109-280, set out as a note under section 58c of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 2005 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 109-53 effective on the date the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement enters into force (Mar. 1, 2006) and to cease to have effect on date Agreement ceases to be in force with respect to the United States, and, during any period in which a country ceases to be a CAFTA-DR country, to cease to have effect with respect to such country, see section 107 of Pub. L. 109-53, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates note under section 4001 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108-429 applicable to merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after Dec. 3, 2004, see

section 2108 of Pub. L. 108-429, set out as a note under section 1401 of this title.

EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 2003  
AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108-77 effective on the date the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement enters into force (Jan. 1, 2004), and to cease to be effective on the date the Agreement ceases to be in force, see section 107(a), (c) of Pub. L. 108-77, set out in a note under section 3805 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1999 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-36, title II, §2408(c), June 25, 1999, 113 Stat. 171, provided that: "The amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 1520 of this title] apply with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act [June 25, 1999]."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 208 of Pub. L. 103-182 effective on the date the North American Free Trade Agreement enters into force with respect to the United States [Jan. 1, 1994], see section 213(b) of Pub. L. 103-182, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3331 of this title.

Amendment by section 412(a) of Pub. L. 103-182 effective on the date the North American Free Trade Agreement enters into force with respect to the United States [Jan. 1, 1994], but not applicable to any final determination described in section 1516a(a)(1)(B) or (2)(B)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this title, notice of which is published in the Federal Register before such date, or to a determination described in section 1516a(a)(2)(B)(vi) of this title, notice of which is received by the Government of Canada or Mexico before such date, or to any binational panel review under the United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement, or to any extraordinary challenge arising out of any such review, that was commenced before such date, see section 416 of Pub. L. 103-182, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3431 of this title.

EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 1988  
AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-449 effective on date the United States-Canada Free-Trade Agreement enters into force (Jan. 1, 1989), and to cease to have effect on date Agreement ceases to be in force, see section 501(a), (c) of Pub. L. 100-449, set out in a note under section 2112 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-573 applicable with respect to investigations initiated by petition or by the administering authority under parts I and II of subtitle IV of this chapter, and to reviews begun under section 1675 of this title, on or after Oct. 30, 1984, see section 626(b)(1) of Pub. L. 98-573, as amended, set out as a note under section 1671 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-417 effective Nov. 1, 1980, and applicable with respect to civil actions pending on or commenced on or after such date, see section 701(a) of Pub. L. 96-417, set out as a note under section 251 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1979 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-39 effective Jan. 1, 1980, see sections 1002 and 107 of Pub. L. 96-39, set out as Effective Date notes under sections 1516a and 1671 of this title, respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

For effective date of amendment by Pub. L. 91-271, see section 203 of Pub. L. 91-271, set out as a note under section 1500 of this title.

CONSTRUCTION OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 208 of Pub. L. 103-182 to be made after amendment by section 645 of Pub. L. 103-182 is executed, see section 212 of Pub. L. 103-182, set out as a note under section 58c of this title.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions, personnel, assets, and liabilities of the United States Customs Service of the Department of the Treasury, including functions of the Secretary of the Treasury relating thereto, to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 203(1), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

Functions of Secretary of the Treasury under this section insofar as they relate to any protest, petition, or notice of desire to contest described in section 1002(b)(1) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, set out as a note under section 1516a of this title, transferred to Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1979, §5(a)(1)(D), 44 F.R. 69275, 93 Stat. 1381, eff. Jan. 2, 1980, as provided by section 1-107(a) of Ex. Ord. No. 12188, Jan. 2, 1980, 45 F.R. 993, set out as notes under section 2171 of this title.

EFFECT OF TERMINATION OF NAFTA COUNTRY STATUS

For provisions relating to effect of termination of NAFTA country status on the provisions of sections 401 to 416 of Pub. L. 103-182, see section 3451 of this title.

INCONSISTENT DECISIONS OF CUSTOMS OFFICERS

Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7361(c), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4474, provided that:

"(1) The Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe regulations that—

"(A) effect uniformity in—

"(i) decisions described in section 514(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1514(a)) that are made by customs officers with respect to the same, or substantially similar, merchandise, and

"(ii) decisions to conduct intensified inspections or examinations of merchandise at ports of entry, and

"(B) establish procedures that allow individuals described in section 514(c)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1514(c)(1)), any port authority, and any other interested party (within the meaning of section 516(a)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1516(a)(2))) to petition the Secretary to obtain such uniformity in an expedited and timely fashion.

"(2) The Secretary of the Treasury shall publish in the Federal Register and submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives the proposed and final form of the regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) and shall receive and consider comments from the public regarding the proposed form of such regulations during the 60-day period beginning on the date the proposed form of such regulations are published in the Federal Register.

"(3) The regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) shall take effect by no later than April 1, 1989.

"(4) By no later than September 1, 1989, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a report on the effectiveness of the regulations prescribed under paragraph (1) and recommendations for permanent legislation addressing uniformity."

PLAN AMENDMENTS NOT REQUIRED UNTIL  
JANUARY 1, 1989

For provisions directing that if any amendments made by subtitle A or subtitle C of title XI [ §§1101-1147 and 1171-1177] or title XVIII [ §§1801-1899A] of Pub. L.

99-514 require an amendment to any plan, such plan amendment shall not be required to be made before the first plan year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 1989, see section 1140 of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 401 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

### § 1515. Review of protests

#### (a) Administrative review and modification of decisions

Unless a request for an accelerated disposition of a protest is filed in accordance with subsection (b) of this section the appropriate customs officer, within two years from the date a protest was filed in accordance with section 1514 of this title, shall review the protest and shall allow or deny such protest in whole or in part. Thereafter, any duties, charge, or exaction found to have been assessed or collected in excess shall be remitted or refunded and any drawback found due shall be paid. Upon the request of the protesting party, filed within the time allowed for the filing of a protest under section 1514 of this title, a protest may be subject to further review by another appropriate customs officer, under the circumstances and in the form and manner that may be prescribed by the Secretary in regulations, but subject to the two-year limitation prescribed in the first sentence of this subsection. Within 30 days from the date an application for further review is filed, the appropriate customs officer shall allow or deny the application and, if allowed, the protest shall be forwarded to the customs officer who will be conducting the further review. Notice of the denial of any protest shall be mailed in the form and manner prescribed by the Secretary. Such notice shall include a statement of the reasons for the denial, as well as a statement informing the protesting party of his right to file a civil action contesting the denial of a protest under section 1514 of this title.

#### (b) Request for accelerated disposition of protest

A request for accelerated disposition of a protest filed in accordance with section 1514 of this title may be mailed by certified or registered mail to the appropriate customs officer any time concurrent with or following the filing of such protest. For purposes of section 1581 of title 28, a protest which has not been allowed or denied in whole or in part within thirty days following the date of mailing by certified or registered mail of a request for accelerated disposition shall be deemed denied on the thirtieth day following mailing of such request.

#### (c) Request for set aside of denial of further review

If a protesting party believes that an application for further review was erroneously or improperly denied or was denied without authority for such action, it may file with the Commissioner of Customs a written request that the denial of the application for further review be set aside. Such request must be filed within 60 days after the date of the notice of the denial. The Commissioner of Customs may review such request and, based solely on the information before the Customs Service at the time the application for further review was denied, may set aside the denial of the application for further review and void the denial of protest, if appro-

priate. If the Commissioner of Customs fails to act within 60 days after the date of the request, the request shall be considered denied. All denials of protests are effective from the date of original denial for purposes of section 2636 of title 28. If an action is commenced in the Court of International Trade that arises out of a protest or an application for further review, all administrative action pertaining to such protest or application shall terminate and any administrative action taken subsequent to the commencement of the action is null and void.

#### (d) Voiding denial of protest

If a protest is timely and properly filed, but is denied contrary to proper instructions, the Customs Service may on its own initiative, or pursuant to a written request by the protesting party filed with the appropriate port director within 90 days after the date of the protest denial, void the denial of the protest.

(June 17, 1930, ch. 497, title IV, §515, 46 Stat. 734; Pub. L. 91-271, title II, §208, June 2, 1970, 84 Stat. 285; Pub. L. 96-39, title X, §1001(b)(2), July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 304; Pub. L. 96-417, title VI, §606, Oct. 10, 1980, 94 Stat. 1745; Pub. L. 103-182, title VI, §617, Dec. 8, 1993, 107 Stat. 2179; Pub. L. 104-295, §3(a)(11), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3516; Pub. L. 106-36, title II, §2407, June 25, 1999, 113 Stat. 171; Pub. L. 108-429, title II, §2104, Dec. 3, 2004, 118 Stat. 2598.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 356, title IV, §515, 42 Stat. 970. That section was superseded by section 515 of act June 17, 1930, comprising this section, and repealed by section 651(a)(1) of the 1930 act.

Provisions for transmission of the invoice, papers, and exhibits to the board of general appraisers in case of protest, and provisions concerning the conclusiveness of its determination, were contained in act Oct. 3, 1913, ch. 16, §III, N, 38 Stat. 187, the provisions of which were substituted for provisions of a similar nature in Customs Administrative Act of June 10, 1890, ch. 407, §14, 26 Stat. 137, as amended by Payne-Aldrich Tariff Act of Aug. 5, 1909, ch. 6, §28, 36 Stat. 100.

#### AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 108-429 substituted “concurrent with or” for “after ninety days” in first sentence.

1999—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106-36 inserted after third sentence “Within 30 days from the date an application for further review is filed, the appropriate customs officer shall allow or deny the application and, if allowed, the protest shall be forwarded to the customs officer who will be conducting the further review.”

1996—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 104-295 substituted “port director” for “district director”.

1993—Subsecs. (c) and (d). Pub. L. 103-182 added subsecs. (c) and (d).

1980—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-417 substituted reference to section “1581” for “1582” of title 28.

1979—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-39 required that notice of denial include a statement of reasons for denial, as well as a statement informing protesting party of his right to file a civil action contesting denial of a protest under section 1514 of this title.

1970—Pub. L. 91-271 designating existing provisions as subsec. (a), substituted provisions authorizing review by appropriate customs officer for provisions authorizing review by collector and revised such review procedures, and added subsec. (b).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108-429 applicable to merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for con-