§ 7471 Suspension or termination

(a) In general

If the Secretary finds that an order issued under section 7463 of this title, or a provision of the order, obstructs or does not tend to effectuate the purposes of this subchapter, the Secretary shall suspend or terminate the operation of the order or provision.

(b) Limitation

The suspension or termination of any order, or any provision of an order, shall not be considered an order under this subchapter.

§ 7472 Regulations

The Secretary may issue such regulations as are necessary to carry out this subchapter.

§ 7473 Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year such sums as are necessary to carry out this subchapter.

(b) Subsequent referenda

The Secretary may periodically conduct a referendum to determine if kiwifruit producers and importers favor the continuation, termination, or suspension of any order issued under section 7463 of this title that is in effect at the time of the referendum.

(c) Required referenda

The Secretary shall hold a referendum under subsection (b) of this section—

(1) at the end of the 6-year period beginning on the effective date of the order and at the end of each subsequent 6-year period;

(2) at the request of the Board; or

(3) if not less than 30 percent of the kiwifruit producers and importers subject to assessments under the order submit a petition requesting the referendum.

(d) Vote

On completion of a referendum under subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary shall suspend or terminate the order that was subject to the referendum at the end of the marketing year if—

(1) the suspension or termination of the order is favored by not less than a majority of the producers and importers voting in the referendum; and

(2) the producers and importers produce and import more than 50 percent of the total volume of kiwifruit produced and imported by persons voting in the referendum.

(e) Confidentiality

The ballots and other information or reports that reveal, or tend to reveal, the vote of any person under this subchapter and the voting list shall be held strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed.

§ 7481 Findings and declaration of policy

(a) Findings

Congress finds that—

(1) popcorn is an important food that is a valuable part of the human diet;

(2) the production and processing of popcorn plays a significant role in the economy of the United States in that popcorn is processed by several popcorn processors, distributed through wholesale and retail outlets, and consumed by millions of people throughout the United States and foreign countries;

(3) popcorn must be of high quality, readily available, handled properly, and marketed efficiently to ensure that the benefits of popcorn are available to the people of the United States;

(4) the maintenance and expansion of existing markets and uses and the development of new markets and uses for popcorn are vital to the welfare of processors and persons concerned with marketing, using, and producing popcorn for the market, as well as to the agricultural economy of the United States;

(5) the cooperative development, financing, and implementation of a coordinated program of popcorn promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information is necessary to maintain and expand markets for popcorn; and

(6) popcorn moves in interstate and foreign commerce, and popcorn that does not move in those channels of commerce directly burdens or affects interstate commerce in popcorn.

(b) Policy

It is the policy of Congress that it is in the public interest to authorize the establishment, through the exercise of the powers provided in this subchapter, of an orderly procedure for developing, financing (through adequate assessments on unpopped popcorn processed domestically), and carrying out an effective, continuous, and coordinated program of promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information designed to—

(1) strengthen the position of the popcorn industry in the marketplace; and

(2) maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets and uses for popcorn.

(c) Purposes

The purposes of this subchapter are to—

(1) maintain and expand the markets for all popcorn products in a manner that—

(A) is not designed to maintain or expand any individual share of a producer or processor of the market;

(B) does not compete with or replace individual advertising or promotion efforts designed to promote individual brand name or trade name popcorn products; and

(C) authorizes and funds programs that result in government speech promoting government objectives; and

(2) establish a nationally coordinated program for popcorn promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information.
(d) Statutory construction
This subchapter treats processors equitably. Nothing in this subchapter—
(1) provides for the imposition of a trade barrier to the entry into the United States of imported popcorn for the domestic market; or
(2) provides for the control of production or otherwise limits the right of any individual processor to produce popcorn.


§ 7482. Definitions
In this subchapter (unless the context otherwise requires):

(1) Board
The term “Board” means the Popcorn Board established under section 7484(b) of this title.

(2) Commerce
The term “commerce” means interstate, foreign, or intrastate commerce.

(3) Consumer information
The term “consumer information” means information and programs that will assist consumers and other persons in making evaluations and decisions regarding the purchase, preparation, and use of popcorn.

(4) Department
The term “Department” means the Department of Agriculture.

(5) Industry information
The term “industry information” means information or a program that will lead to the development of—
(A) new markets, new marketing strategies, or increased efficiency for the popcorn industry; or
(B) activities to enhance the image of the popcorn industry.

(6) Marketing
The term “marketing” means the sale or other disposition of unpopped popcorn for human consumption in a channel of commerce, but does not include a sale or disposition to or between processors.

(7) Order
The term “order” means an order issued under section 7483 of this title.

(8) Person
The term “person” means an individual, group of individuals, partnership, corporation, association, or cooperative, or any other legal entity.

(9) Popcorn
The term “popcorn” means unpopped popcorn (Zea Mays L) that is—
(A) commercially grown;
(B) processed in the United States by shelling, cleaning, or drying; and
(C) introduced into a channel of commerce.

(10) Process
The term “process” means to shell, clean, dry, and prepare popcorn for the market, but does not include packaging popcorn for the market without also engaging in another activity described in this paragraph.

(11) Processor
The term “processor” means a person engaged in the preparation of unpopped popcorn for the market who owns or shares the ownership and risk of loss of the popcorn and who processes and distributes over 4,000,000 pounds of popcorn in the market per year.

(12) Promotion
The term “promotion” means an action, including paid advertising, to enhance the image or desirability of popcorn.

(13) Research
The term “research” means any type of study to advance the image, desirability, marketability, production, product development, quality, or nutritional value of popcorn.

(14) Secretary
The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(15) State
The term “State” means each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

(16) United States
The term “United States” means all of the States.


§ 7483. Issuance of orders
(a) In general
To effectuate the policy described in section 7481(b) of this title, the Secretary, subject to subsection (b) of this section, shall issue 1 or more orders applicable to processors. An order shall be applicable to all popcorn production and marketing areas in the United States. Not more than 1 order shall be in effect under this subchapter at any 1 time.

(b) Procedure
(1) Proposal or request for issuance
The Secretary may propose the issuance of an order, or an association of processors or any other person that would be affected by an order may request the issuance of, and submit a proposal for, an order.

(2) Notice and comment concerning proposed order
Not later than 60 days after the receipt of a request and proposal for an order under paragraph (1), or at such time as the Secretary determines to propose an order, the Secretary shall publish a proposed order and give due notice and opportunity for public comment on the proposed order.

(3) Issuance of order
After notice and opportunity for public comment under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall issue an order, taking into consideration the comments received and including in the order such provisions as are necessary to ensure that the order conforms to this subchapter.
The order shall be issued and become effective not later than 150 days after the date of publication of the proposed order.

(c) Amendments

The Secretary, as appropriate, may amend an order. The provisions of this subchapter applicable to an order shall be applicable to any amendment to an order, except that an amendment to an order may not require a referendum to become effective.


§ 7484. Required terms in orders

(a) In general

An order shall contain the terms and conditions specified in this section.

(b) Establishment and membership of Popcorn Board

(1) In general

The order shall provide for the establishment of, and appointment of members to, a Popcorn Board that shall consist of not fewer than 4 members and not more than 9 members.

(2) Nominations

The members of the Board shall be processors appointed by the Secretary from nominations submitted by processors in a manner authorized by the Secretary, subject to paragraph (3). Not more than 1 member may be appointed to the Board from nominations submitted by any 1 processor.

(3) Geographical diversity

In making appointments, the Secretary shall take into account, to the extent practicable, the geographical distribution of popcorn production throughout the United States.

(4) Terms

The term of appointment of each member of the Board shall be 3 years, except that the members appointed to the initial Board shall serve, proportionately, for terms of 2, 3, and 4 years, as determined by the Secretary.

(5) Compensation and expenses

A member of the Board shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for the expenses of the member incurred in the performance of duties for the Board.

(c) Powers and duties of Board

The order shall define the powers and duties of the Board, which shall include the power and duty—

(1) to administer the order in accordance with the terms and provisions of the order;

(2) to issue regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of the order;

(3) to appoint members of the Board to serve on an executive committee;

(4) to propose, receive, evaluate, and approve budgets, plans, and projects of promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information, or industry information, including contracts with a processor organization, and for the payment of the cost of the plans or projects with funds collected by the Board under the order.

(2) Requirements

A contract or agreement under paragraph (1) shall provide that—

(A) the contracting party shall develop and submit to the Board a plan or project, together with a budget that shows the estimated costs to be incurred for the plan or project;

(B) the plan or project shall become effective on the approval of the Secretary; and

(C) the contracting party shall keep accurate records of each transaction of the party, account for funds received and expended, make periodic reports to the Board of activities conducted, and make such other reports as the Board or the Secretary may require.

(3) Processor organizations

The order shall provide that the Board may contract with processor organizations for any services required in addition to the services described in paragraph (1). The contract shall include provisions comparable to the provisions required by paragraph (2).
(f) Assessments

(1) Processors
The order shall provide that each processor marketing popcorn in the United States or for export shall, in the manner prescribed in the order, pay assessments and remit the assessments to the Board.

(2) Direct marketers
A processor that markets popcorn produced by the processor directly to consumers shall pay and remit the assessments on the popcorn directly to the Board in the manner prescribed in the order.

(3) Rate
(A) In general
The rate of assessment prescribed in the order shall be a rate established by the Board but not more than $.08 per hundred-weight of popcorn.
(B) Adjustment of rate
The order shall provide that the Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may raise or lower the rate of assessment annually up to a maximum of $.08 per hundred-weight of popcorn.

(4) Use of assessments
(A) In general
Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C) and subsection (c)(5) of this section, the order shall provide that the assessments collected shall be used by the Board—
(i) to pay expenses incurred in implementing and administering the order, with provision for a reasonable reserve; and
(ii) to cover such administrative costs as are incurred by the Secretary, except that the administrative costs incurred by the Secretary (other than any legal expenses incurred to defend and enforce the order) that may be reimbursed by the Board may not exceed 15 percent of the projected annual revenues of the Board.

(B) Expenditures based on source of assessments
In implementing plans and projects of promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information, the Board shall expend funds on—
(i) plans and projects for popcorn marketed in the United States or Canada in proportion to the amount of assessments collected on domestically marketed popcorn; and
(ii) plans and projects for exported popcorn in proportion to the amount of assessments collected on exported popcorn.

(C) Notification
If the administrative costs incurred by the Secretary that are reimbursed by the Board exceed 10 percent of the projected annual revenues of the Board, the Secretary shall notify as soon as practicable the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

(g) Prohibition on use of funds
The order shall prohibit any funds collected by the Board under the order from being used to influence government action or policy, other than the use of funds by the Board for the development and recommendation to the Secretary of amendments to the order.

(h) Books and records of Board
The order shall require the Board to—
(1) maintain such books and records (which shall be available to the Secretary for inspection and audit) as the Secretary may prescribe;
(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary, from time to time, such reports as the Secretary may prescribe; and
(3) account for the receipt and disbursement of all funds entrusted to the Board.

(i) Books and records of processors
(1) Maintenance and reporting of information
The order shall require that each processor of popcorn for the market shall—
(A) maintain, and make available for inspection, such books and records as are required by the order; and
(B) file reports at such time, in such manner, and having such content as is prescribed in the order.

(2) Use of information
The Secretary shall authorize the use of information regarding processors that may be accumulated under a law or regulation other than this subchapter or a regulation issued under this subchapter. The information shall be made available to the Secretary as appropriate for the administration or enforcement of this subchapter, the order, or any regulation issued under this subchapter.

(3) Confidentiality
(A) In general
Subject to subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), all information obtained by the Secretary under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be kept confidential by all officers, employees, and agents of the Board and the Department.

(B) Disclosure by Secretary
Information referred to in subparagraph (A) may be disclosed if—
(i) the Secretary considers the information relevant;
(ii) the information is revealed in a suit or administrative hearing brought at the request of the Secretary, or to which the Secretary or any officer of the United States is a party; and
(iii) the information relates to the order.

(C) Disclosure to other agency of Federal Government
(i) In general
No information obtained under the authority of this subchapter may be made available to another agency or officer of the Federal Government for any purpose other than the implementation of this subchapter and any investigatory or enforcement activity necessary for the implementation of this subchapter.

(ii) Penalty
A person who knowingly violates this subparagraph shall, on conviction, be sub-
§ 7485  TITLE 7—AGRICULTURE

(j) Other terms and conditions

The order shall contain such other terms and conditions, consistent with this subchapter, as are necessary to effectuate this subchapter, including regulations relating to the assessment of late payment charges.

(D) General statements

Nothing in this paragraph prohibits—

(i) the issuance of general statements based on the reports of a number of persons subject to an order or statistical data collected from the reports, if the statements do not identify the information provided by any person; or

(ii) the publication, by direction of the Secretary, of the name of a person violating the order, together with a statement of the particular provisions of the order violated by the person.

§ 7485. Referenda

(a) Initial referendum

(1) In general

Within the 60-day period immediately preceding the effective date of an order, as provided in section 7483(b)(3) of this title, the Secretary shall conduct a referendum among processors who, during a representative period, have been engaged in processing, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the order shall go into effect.

(2) Approval of order

The order shall become effective, as provided in section 7483(b)(3) of this title, the Secretary, have been engaged in processing, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the order shall go into effect.

(b) Additional referenda

(1) In general

Not earlier than 3 years after the effective date of an order approved under subsection (a) of this section, on the request of the Board or a representative group of processors, as described in paragraph (2), the Secretary may conduct additional referenda to determine whether processors favor the suspension or termination of the order.

(2) Representative group of processors

An additional referendum on an order shall be conducted if the referendum is requested by 30 percent or more of the number of processors who, during a representative period as determined by the Secretary, have been engaged in processing.

§ 7485. Referenda

(c) Costs of referendum

The ballots and other information or reports collected from the reports, if the statements do not identify the information provided by any person; or

(ii) the publication, by direction of the Secretary, of the name of a person violating the order, together with a statement of the particular provisions of the order violated by the person.

§ 7486. Petition and review

(a) Petition

(1) In general

A person subject to an order may file with the Secretary a petition—

(A) stating that the order, a provision of the order, or an obligation imposed in connection with the order is not established in accordance with law; and

(B) requesting a modification of the order or obligation or an exemption from the order or obligation.

(2) Statute of limitations

A petition under paragraph (1) concerning an obligation may be filed not later than 2 years after the date of imposition of the obligation.

(3) Hearings

The petitioner shall be given the opportunity for a hearing on a petition filed under paragraph (1), in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary.

(4) Ruling

After a hearing under paragraph (3), the Secretary shall issue a ruling on the petition that is the subject of the hearing, which shall be

(3) Disapproval of order

If the Secretary determines, in a referendum conducted under paragraph (1), that suspension or termination of the order is favored by at least 2/3 of the processors voting in the referendum, the Secretary shall—

(A) suspend or terminate, as appropriate, collection of assessments under the order not later than 180 days after the date of determination; and

(B) suspend or terminate the order, as appropriate, in an orderly manner as soon as practicable after the date of determination.

(c) Costs of referendum

The Secretary shall be reimbursed from assessments collected by the Board for any expenses incurred by the Secretary in connection with the conduct of any referendum under this section.

(d) Method of conducting referendum

Subject to this section, a referendum conducted under this section shall be conducted in such manner as is determined by the Secretary.

(e) Confidentiality of ballots and other information

(1) In general

The ballots and other information or reports that reveal or tend to reveal the vote of any processor, or any business operation of a processor, shall be considered to be strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed.

(2) Penalty for violations

An officer or employee of the Department who knowingly violates paragraph (1) shall be subject to the penalties described in section 7484(i)(3)(C)(ii) of this title.
final if the ruling is in accordance with applicable law.

(b) Review
(1) Commencement of action
The district court of the United States for any district in which a person who is a petitioner under subsection (a) of this section resides or carries on business shall have jurisdiction to review a ruling on the petition, if the person files a complaint not later than 20 days after the date of issuance of the ruling under subsection (a)(4) of this section.

(2) Process
Service of process in a proceeding under paragraph (1) may be made on the Secretary by delivering a copy of the complaint to the Secretary.

(3) Remands
If the court determines, under paragraph (1), that a ruling issued under subsection (a)(4) of this section is not in accordance with applicable law, the court shall remand the matter to the Secretary with directions—
(A) to make such ruling as the court shall determine to be in accordance with law; or
(B) to take such further proceedings as, in the opinion of the court, the law requires.

(c) Enforcement
The pendency of proceedings instituted under subsection (a) of this section may not impede, hinder, or delay the Secretary or the Attorney General from taking action under section 7487 of this title.


§ 7487. Enforcement
(a) In general
The Secretary may issue an enforcement order to restrain or prevent any person from violating an order or regulation issued under this subchapter and may assess a civil penalty of not more than $1,000 for each violation of the enforcement order, after an opportunity for an administrative hearing, if the Secretary determines that the administration and enforcement of the order and this subchapter would be adequately served by such a procedure.

(b) Jurisdiction
The district courts of the United States are vested with jurisdiction specifically to enforce, and to prevent and restrain any person from violating, an order or regulation issued under this subchapter.

(c) Referral to Attorney General
A civil action authorized to be brought under this section shall be referred to the Attorney General for appropriate action.


§ 7488. Investigations and power to subpoena
(a) Investigations
The Secretary may make such investigations as the Secretary considers necessary—
(1) for the effective administration of this subchapter; and
(2) to determine whether any person subject to this subchapter has engaged, or is about to engage, in an act that constitutes or will constitute a violation of this subchapter or an order or regulation issued under this subchapter.

(b) Oaths, affirmations, and subpoenas
For the purpose of an investigation under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel the attendance of witnesses, take evidence, and require the production of any records that are relevant to the inquiry. The attendance of witnesses and the production of records may be required from any place in the United States.

(c) Aid of courts
(1) Request
In the case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to, any person, the Secretary may request the aid of any court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which the investigation or proceeding is carried on, or where the person resides or carries on business, in requiring the attendance and testimony of the person and the production of records.

(2) Enforcement order of the court
The court may issue an enforcement order requiring the person to appear before the Secretary to produce records or to give testimony concerning the matter under investigation.

(3) Contempt
A failure to obey an enforcement order of the court under paragraph (2) may be punished by the court as a contempt of the court.

(4) Process
Process in a case under this subsection may be served in the judicial district in which the person resides or carries on business or wherever the person may be found.


§ 7489. Relation to other programs
Nothing in this subchapter preempts or supersedes any other program relating to popcorn promotion organized and operated under the laws of the United States or any State.


§ 7490. Regulations
The Secretary may issue such regulations as are necessary to carry out this subchapter.


§ 7491. Authorization of appropriations
There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subchapter. Amounts made available under this section or otherwise made available to the Depart-
ment, and amounts made available under any other marketing or promotion order, may not be used to pay any administrative expense of the Board.


CHAPTER 102—EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

Sec. 7501. Definitions.
7502. Availability of CCC commodities.
7503. State plan.
7504. Initial processing costs.
7505. Federal and State responsibilities.
7506. Assurances; anticipated use.
7507. State and local supplementation of commodities.
7508. Authorization and appropriations.
7509. Relationship to other programs.
7510. Commodities not income.
7511. Prohibition against certain State charges.
7511a. Emergency food program infrastructure grants.
7512. Regulations.
7513. Finality of determinations.
7514. Incorporation of additional commodities.
7515. Allotment and delivery of commodities.
7516. Settlement and adjustment of claims.
7517. Hunger-free communities.

CODIFICATION


§ 7501. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Additional commodities

The term “additional commodities” means commodities made available under section 7515 of this title in addition to the commodities made available under sections 7502 and 7507 of this title.

(2) Average monthly number of unemployed persons

The term “average monthly number of unemployed persons” means the average monthly number of unemployed persons in each State during the most recent fiscal year for which information concerning the number of unemployed persons is available, as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

(3) Eligible recipient agency

The term “eligible recipient agency” means a public or nonprofit organization that—

(A) administers—

(i) an emergency feeding organization;

(ii) a charitable institution (including a hospital and a retirement home, but excluding a penal institution) to the extent that the institution serves needy persons;

(iii) a nutrition project operating under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), including a project that operates a congregate nutrition site and a project that provides home-delivered meals; or

(iv) a disaster relief program;

(B) has been designated by the appropriate State agency, or by the Secretary; and

(C) has been approved by the Secretary for participation in the program established under this chapter.

(4) Emergency feeding organization

The term “emergency feeding organization” means a public or nonprofit organization that administers activities and projects (including the activities and projects of a charitable institution, a food bank, a food pantry, a hunger relief center, a soup kitchen, or a similar public or private nonprofit eligible recipient agency) providing nutrition assistance to relieve situations of emergency and distress through the provision of food to needy persons, including low-income and unemployed persons.

(5) Food bank

The term “food bank” means a public or private nonprofit organization that distributes food to low-income and unemployed households, including food from sources other than the Department of Agriculture, to relieve situations of emergency and distress through the provision of food to needy persons, including low-income and unemployed persons.

(6) Food pantry

The term “food pantry” means a public or private nonprofit organization that operates activities and projects (including the activities and projects of a charitable institution) to provide food to low-income and unemployed persons on a regular basis.

(7) Poverty line

The term “poverty line” has the meaning provided in section 9902(2) of title 42.

(8) Soup kitchen

The term “soup kitchen” means a public or private charitable institution that, as an integral part of the normal activities of the institution, maintains an established feeding operation to provide food to needy homeless persons on a regular basis.

(9) Total value of additional commodities

The term “total value of additional commodities” means the actual cost of all additional commodities that are paid by the Secretary (including the distribution and processing costs incurred by the Secretary).

(10) Value of additional commodities allocated to each State

The term “value of additional commodities allocated to each State” means the actual