

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-521 effective Jan. 3, 1979, see section 717 of Pub. L. 95-521, set out as an Effective Date note under section 288 of Title 2, The Congress.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1973 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 93-191 effective Dec. 18, 1973, except that subsec. (b) of this section effective Dec. 27, 1972, see section 14 of Pub. L. 93-191, set out as a note under section 3210 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective July 1, 1971, pursuant to Resolution No. 71-9 of the Board of Governors. See section 15(a) of Pub. L. 91-375, set out as a note preceding section 101 of this title.

§ 3217. Correspondence of members of diplomatic corps and consuls of countries of Postal Union of Americas and Spain

Correspondence of the members of the diplomatic corps of the countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain stationed in the United States may be reciprocally transmitted in the domestic mails free of postage, and be entitled to free registration without right to indemnity in case of loss. The same privilege is accorded consuls and vice consuls when they are discharging the function of consuls of countries stationed in the United States, for official correspondence among themselves, and with the Government of the United States.

(Pub. L. 91-375, Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 755.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective July 1, 1971, pursuant to Resolution No. 71-9 of the Board of Governors. See section 15(a) of Pub. L. 91-375, set out as a note preceding section 101 of this title.

FREE MAILING PRIVILEGES CONTINUE UNCHANGED

Pub. L. 109-435, title V, § 505(c), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3236, provided that: "Nothing in this Act [see Tables for classification] or any amendment made by this Act shall affect any free mailing privileges accorded under section 3217 or sections 3403 through 3406 of title 39, United States Code."

§ 3218. Franked mail for survivors of Members of Congress

Upon the death of a Member of Congress during his term of office, the surviving spouse of such Member (or, if there is no surviving spouse, a member of the immediate family of the Member designated by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives, as appropriate, in accordance with rules and procedures established by the Secretary or the Clerk) may send, for a period not to exceed 180 days after his death, as franked mail, nonpolitical correspondence relating to the death of the Member.

(Pub. L. 91-375, Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 755; Pub. L. 93-191, § 11, Dec. 18, 1973, 87 Stat. 746; Pub. L. 97-69, § 6(b), (c)(1), Oct. 26, 1981, 95 Stat. 1043.)

AMENDMENTS

1981—Pub. L. 97-69 substituted "survivors" for "surviving spouses" in section catchline and, in text, inserted "(or, if there is no surviving spouse, a member of the immediate family of the Member designated by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House

of Representatives, as appropriate, in accordance with rules and procedures established by the Secretary or the Clerk)" after "such Member".

1973—Pub. L. 93-191 inserted "nonpolitical" before "correspondence".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1973 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 93-191 effective Dec. 18, 1973, see section 14 of Pub. L. 93-191, set out as a note under section 3210 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective July 1, 1971, pursuant to Resolution No. 71-9 of the Board of Governors. See section 15(a) of Pub. L. 91-375, set out as a note preceding section 101 of this title.

§ 3219. Mailgrams

Any Mailgram sent by the Vice President, a Member of or Member-elect to Congress, the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, an elected officer of the House of Representatives (other than a Member of the House), the Legislative Council of the House of Representatives or the Senate, the Law Revision Council of the House of Representatives, or the Senate Legal Counsel, and then delivered by the Postal Service, shall be considered as franked mail, subject to section 3216(a)(2) of this title, if such Mailgram contains matter of the kind authorized to be sent by that official as franked mail under section 3210 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 93-191, § 12(a), Dec. 18, 1973, 87 Stat. 746; amended Pub. L. 95-521, title VII, § 714(c), Oct. 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1884; Pub. L. 97-263, § 1(4), Sept. 24, 1982, 96 Stat. 1132.)

AMENDMENTS

1982—Pub. L. 97-263 inserted reference to Law Revision Council of House of Representatives.

1978—Pub. L. 95-521 inserted reference to Senate Legal Counsel.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-521 effective Jan. 3, 1979, see section 717 of Pub. L. 95-521, set out as an Effective Date note under section 288 of Title 2, The Congress.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Dec. 18, 1973, see section 14 of Pub. L. 93-191, set out as an Effective Date of 1976 Amendment note under section 3210 of this title.

§ 3220. Use of official mail in the location and recovery of missing children

(a)(1) The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, after consultation with appropriate public and private agencies, shall prescribe general guidelines under which penalty mail may be used to assist in the location and recovery of missing children. The guidelines shall provide information relating to—

(A) the form and manner in which materials and information relating to missing children (such as biographical data and pictures, sketches, or other likenesses) may be included in penalty mail;

(B) appropriate sources from which such materials and information may be obtained;

(C) the procedures by which such materials and information may be obtained; and

(D) any other matter which the Office considers appropriate.

(2) Each executive department and independent establishment of the Government of the United States shall prescribe regulations under which penalty mail sent by such department or establishment may be used in conformance with the guidelines prescribed under paragraph (1).

(b) The Senate Committee on Rules and Administration and the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards shall prescribe for their respective Houses rules and regulations, and shall take such other action as the Committee or Commission considers necessary and proper, in order that purposes similar to those of subsection (a) may, in the discretion of the congressional official or office concerned, be carried out by the use of franked mail sent by such official or office.

(c) As used in this section, “Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention” and “Office” each means the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention within the Department of Justice, as established by section 201 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

(Added Pub. L. 99-87, §1(a)(1), Aug. 9, 1985, 99 Stat. 290.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 201 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, referred to in subsec. (c), is section 201 of Pub. L. 93-415, which enacted section 11111 of Title 34, Crime Control and Law Enforcement, and amended section 5108 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

TERMINATION DATE

Pub. L. 99-87, §5, Aug. 9, 1985, 99 Stat. 290, as amended by Pub. L. 100-202, §101(m) [title VI, §627(a)], Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329-390, 1329-430; Pub. L. 102-514, §1(2), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 3371; Pub. L. 105-126, §1(2), Dec. 1, 1997, 111 Stat. 2542, which provided that the amendments made by section 1 of Pub. L. 99-87, enacting this section and amending sections 3201 and 3204 of this title and section 733 of Title 44, Public Printing and Documents, and any guidelines, rules, or regulations prescribed to carry out such amendments were to cease to be effective after December 31, 2002, was repealed by Pub. L. 109-426, §1, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2911.

ISSUANCE OF GUIDELINES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 99-87, §2, Aug. 9, 1985, 99 Stat. 291, provided that:

“(a) GUIDELINES.—The guidelines described in section 3220(a)(1) of title 39, United States Code, as added by this Act, shall be prescribed not later than ninety days after the date of the enactment of this Act (Aug. 9, 1985).

“(b) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The regulations described in subsection (a)(2) of section 3220 of title 39, United States Code, as added by this Act, and the rules and regulations described in subsection (b) of such section, as so added, shall be prescribed not later than one hundred and eighty days after the date of the enactment of this Act (Aug. 9, 1985).”

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Pub. L. 99-87, §3, Aug. 9, 1985, 99 Stat. 291, as amended by Pub. L. 100-202, §101(m) (title VI, §627(b)), Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329-390, 1329-430; Pub. L. 102-514, §1(1), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 3371; Pub. L. 105-126, §1(1), Dec. 1, 1997, 111 Stat. 2542, required the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, and the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards each to submit a report no later than June 30, 2002, on the authority provided by this section.

CLARIFICATION RELATING TO COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Pub. L. 99-87, §4, Aug. 9, 1985, 99 Stat. 292, provided that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the authority provided by section 3220(b) of title 39, United States Code, as added by this Act, shall not be considered to be subject to the authority of any agency within the executive branch of the Government of the United States to coordinate programs relating to missing children.”

CHAPTER 34—ARMED FORCES AND FREE POSTAGE

Sec.	
3401.	Mailing privileges of members of Armed Forces of the United States.
[3402.	Repealed.]
3403.	Matter for blind and other handicapped persons.
3404.	Unsealed letters sent by blind or physically handicapped persons.
3405.	Markings.
3406.	Balloting materials under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title X, §1055(c)(2), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1593, added item 3401 and struck out former item 3401 “Mailing privileges of members of Armed Forces of the United States and of friendly foreign nations”.

1986—Pub. L. 99-410, title II, §201(b)(1), Aug. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 928, added item 3406.

1979—Pub. L. 96-70, title I, §1331(e)(3)(B), Sept. 27, 1979, 93 Stat. 482, struck out item 3402 “Mailing privileges of members of Armed Forces of the United States and of friendly foreign nations in the Canal Zone”.

§ 3401. Mailing privileges of members of Armed Forces of the United States

(a)(1) First-class letter mail having the character of personal correspondence shall be carried, at no cost to the sender, in the manner provided by this section, when mailed by an eligible individual described in paragraph (2) and addressed to a place within the delivery limits of a United States post office, if—

(A) such letter mail is mailed by the eligible individual at an Armed Forces post office established in an overseas area designated by the President, where the Armed Forces of the United States are deployed for a contingency operation as determined by the Secretary of Defense; or

(B) the eligible individual is hospitalized as a result of disease or injury incurred as a result of service in an overseas area designated by the President under subparagraph (A).

(2) An eligible individual described in this paragraph is—

(A) a member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty, as defined in section 101 of title 10; or

(B) a civilian employee of the Department of Defense or a military department who is providing support to military operations.

(b) There shall be transported by surface or air, consistent with the service purchased by the mailer, between Armed Forces post offices or from an Armed Forces post office to a point of entry into the United States, the following categories of mail matter which are mailed at any such Armed Forces post office: