

and under this chapter as is provided to covered employees who work in the Washington, DC area.

**(b) Office of Congressional Workplace Rights**

The Office shall—

(1) establish a method by which out-of-area covered employees may communicate securely with the Office, which shall include an option for real-time audiovisual communication; and

(2) provide guidance to employing offices regarding how each office can facilitate equitable access to the resources and services provided under this chapter for its out-of-area covered employees, including information regarding the communication methods described in paragraph (1).

**(c) Employing offices**

It is the sense of Congress that each employing office with out-of-area covered employees should use its best efforts to facilitate equitable access to the resources and services provided under this chapter for those employees.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title V, § 510, as added Pub. L. 115-397, title III, § 307(a)(2), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5325.)

**Editorial Notes**

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 510 of Pub. L. 104-1 was renumbered section 511 and is classified to section 1438 of this title.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section effective upon expiration of the 180-day period beginning on Dec. 21, 2018, with provisions for effect on pending proceedings, see section 401 of Pub. L. 115-397, set out as an Effective Date of 2018 Amendment note under section 1301 of this title.

**§ 1438. Severability**

If any provision of this chapter or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of this chapter and the application of the provisions of the remainder to any person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title V, § 511, formerly § 509, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 44; renumbered § 510, renumbered § 511, Pub. L. 115-397, title III, §§ 306(a)(1), 307(a)(1), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5324, 5325.)

**Editorial Notes**

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

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**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-397 effective upon expiration of the 180-day period beginning on Dec. 21, 2018, with provisions for effect on pending proceedings, see section 401 of Pub. L. 115-397, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

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**§ 1501. Purposes**

The purposes of this chapter are—

(1) to strengthen the partnership between the Federal Government and State, local, and tribal governments;

(2) to end the imposition, in the absence of full consideration by Congress, of Federal mandates on State, local, and tribal governments without adequate Federal funding, in a manner that may displace other essential State, local, and tribal governmental priorities;

(3) to assist Congress in its consideration of proposed legislation establishing or revising Federal programs containing Federal mandates affecting State, local, and tribal governments, and the private sector by—

(A) providing for the development of information about the nature and size of mandates in proposed legislation; and