

and Infrastructure Improvements Act of 2000”, see section 201 of Pub. L. 106-313, set out as a Short Title of 2000 Amendment note under section 1551 of this title.

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION
SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

§ 1572. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) Backlog

The term “backlog” means, with respect to an immigration benefit application, the period of time in excess of 180 days that such application has been pending before the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(2) Immigration benefit application

The term “immigration benefit application” means any application or petition to confer, certify, change, adjust, or extend any status granted under the Immigration and Nationality Act [8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.].

(Pub. L. 106-313, title II, §203, Oct. 17, 2000, 114 Stat. 1263.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Immigration and Nationality Act, referred to in par. (2), is act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, which is classified principally to chapter 12 (§1101 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1101 of this title and Tables.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION
SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

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§ 1573. Immigration Services and Infrastructure Improvements Account

(a) Authority of the Attorney General

The Attorney General shall take such measures as may be necessary to—

(1) reduce the backlog in the processing of immigration benefit applications, with the objective of the total elimination of the backlog 1 year after November 25, 2002;

(2) make such other improvements in the processing of immigration benefit applications as may be necessary to ensure that a backlog does not develop after such date; and

(3) make such improvements in infrastructure as may be necessary to effectively provide immigration services.

(b) Authorization of appropriations

(1) In general

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice from time to time such sums as may be necessary for the Attorney General to carry out subsection (a).

(2) Designation of account in treasury

Amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) may be referred to as the “Immigration Services and Infrastructure Improvements Account”.

(3) Availability of funds

Amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available until expended.

(4) Limitation on expenditures

None of the funds appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) may be expended until the report described in section 1574(a) of this title has been submitted to Congress.

(Pub. L. 106-313, title II, §204, Oct. 17, 2000, 114 Stat. 1263; Pub. L. 107-296, title IV, §458, Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2201.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 107-296 substituted “1 year after November 25, 2002;” for “not later than one year after October 17, 2000;”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-296 effective 60 days after Nov. 25, 2002, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-296, set out as an Effective Date note under section 101 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION
SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

§ 1574. Reports to Congress

(a) Backlog elimination plan

(1) Report required

Not later than 90 days after October 17, 2000, the Attorney General shall submit a report to the Committees on the Judiciary and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives concerning—

(A) the backlogs in immigration benefit applications in existence as of October 17, 2000; and

(B) the Attorney General’s plan for eliminating such backlogs.

(2) Report elements

The report shall include—

(A) an assessment of the data systems used in adjudicating and reporting on the status of immigration benefit applications, including—

(i) a description of the adequacy of existing computer hardware, computer software, and other mechanisms to comply with the adjudications and reporting requirements of this subchapter; and

(ii) a plan for implementing improvements to existing data systems to accomplish the purpose of this subchapter, as described in section 1571(a) of this title;

(B) a description of the quality controls to be put into force to ensure timely, fair, ac-