

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

2018—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-254 amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “An air carrier, foreign air carrier, or ticket agent selling, in the United States, a ticket for a flight in foreign air transportation to a country listed on the Internet Web site established under subsection (a) shall refer the purchaser of the ticket to the Internet Web site established under subsection (a) for additional information.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Requirements of this section to begin to apply 60 days after Feb. 14, 2012, except as otherwise provided, see section 415(c) of Pub. L. 112-95, set out as a note under section 42301 of this title.

§ 42304. Widespread disruptions

(a) **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.**—In the event of a widespread disruption, a covered air carrier shall immediately publish, via a prominent link on the air carrier’s public internet website, a clear statement indicating whether, with respect to a passenger of the air carrier whose travel is interrupted as a result of the widespread disruption, the air carrier will—

- (1) provide for hotel accommodations;
- (2) arrange for ground transportation;
- (3) provide meal vouchers;
- (4) arrange for air transportation on another air carrier or foreign air carrier to the passenger’s destination; and
- (5) provide for sleeping facilities inside the airport terminal.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) **WIDESPREAD DISRUPTION.**—The term “widespread disruption” means, with respect to a covered air carrier, the interruption of all or the overwhelming majority of the air carrier’s systemwide flight operations, including flight delays and cancellations, as the result of the failure of 1 or more computer systems or computer networks of the air carrier.

(2) **COVERED AIR CARRIER.**—The term “covered air carrier” means an air carrier that provides scheduled passenger air transportation by operating an aircraft that as originally designed has a passenger capacity of 30 or more seats.

(c) **SAVINGS PROVISION.**—Nothing in this section may be construed to modify, abridge, or repeal any obligation of an air carrier under section 42301.

(Added Pub. L. 115-254, div. B, title IV, §428(a), Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3341.)

SUBPART III—SAFETY**CHAPTER 441—REGISTRATION AND RECORDATION OF AIRCRAFT**

| | |
|--------|--|
| Sec. | |
| 44101. | Operation of aircraft. |
| 44102. | Registration requirements. |
| 44103. | Registration of aircraft. |
| 44104. | Registration of aircraft components and dealers’ certificates of registration. |
| 44105. | Suspension and revocation of aircraft certificates. |

| | |
|--------|---|
| Sec. | |
| 44106. | Revocation of aircraft certificates for controlled substance violations. |
| 44107. | Recordation of conveyances, leases, and security instruments. |
| 44108. | Validity of conveyances, leases, and security instruments. |
| 44109. | Reporting transfer of ownership. |
| 44110. | Information about aircraft ownership and rights. |
| 44111. | Modifications in registration and recordation system for aircraft not providing air transportation. |
| 44112. | Limitation of liability. |
| 44113. | Definitions. |

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

2004—Pub. L. 108-297, §6(b), Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1097, added item 44113.

§ 44101. Operation of aircraft

(a) **REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT.**—Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a person may operate an aircraft only when the aircraft is registered under section 44103 of this title.

(b) **EXCEPTIONS.**—A person may operate an aircraft in the United States that is not registered—

(1) when authorized under section 40103(d) or 41703 of this title;

(2) when it is an aircraft of the national defense forces of the United States and is identified in a way satisfactory to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration; and

(3) for a reasonable period of time after a transfer of ownership, under regulations prescribed by the Administrator.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1161.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|--|---|
| 44101(a) | 49 App.:1401(a) (1st sentence words before proviso less words between parentheses). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, § 501(a), 72 Stat. 771. |
| 44101(b) | 49 App.:1401(a) (1st sentence words between parentheses, proviso, last sentence). 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1963, Pub. L. 97-449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444. |

In this section, the word “navigate” is omitted as being included in the definition of “operate aircraft” in section 40102(a) of the revised title.

In subsection (a), the words “Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section” are added for clarity. The words “a person may . . . an aircraft only when the aircraft is registered under section 44103 of this title” are substituted for “It shall be unlawful . . . any aircraft eligible for registration if such aircraft is not registered by its owner as provided in this section, or . . . any aircraft not eligible for registration” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “A person may operate an aircraft in the United States that is not registered” are substituted for “may be operated and navigated without being so registered” and “may

... permit the operation and navigation of aircraft without registration” for clarity. In clause (2), the words “identified in a way” are substituted for “identified, by the agency having jurisdiction over them, in a manner” to eliminate unnecessary words.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-297, §7, Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1097, provided that: “This Act [see Short Title of 2004 Amendment note set out under section 40101 of this title], including any amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on the date the Cape Town Treaty (as defined in section 44113 of title 49, United States Code) enters into force with respect to the United States and shall not apply to any registration or recordation that was made before such effective date under chapter 441 of such title or any legal rights relating to such registration or recordation.” [The Cape Town Treaty entered into force with respect to the United States on Mar. 1, 2006. See 71 F.R. 8457.]

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 108-297, §4, Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1096, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall issue regulations necessary to carry out this Act [see Short Title of 2004 Amendment note set out under section 40101 of this title], including any amendments made by this Act.

“(b) CONTENTS OF REGULATIONS.—Regulations to be issued under this Act shall specify, at a minimum, the requirements for—

“(1) the registration of aircraft previously registered in a country in which the Cape Town Treaty is in effect; and

“(2) the cancellation of registration of a civil aircraft of the United States based on a request made in accordance with the Cape Town Treaty.

“(c) EXPEDITED RULEMAKING PROCESS.—

“(1) FINAL RULE.—The Administrator shall issue regulations under this section by publishing a final rule by December 31, 2004.

“(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The final rule shall not be effective before the date the Cape Town Treaty enters into force with respect to the United States [Mar. 1, 2006, see Effective Date of 2004 Amendment note above].

“(3) ECONOMIC ANALYSIS.—The Administrator shall not be required to prepare an economic analysis of the cost and benefits of the final rule.

“(d) APPLICABILITY OF TREATY.—Notwithstanding parts 47.37(a)(3)(ii) and 47.47(a)(2) of title 14, of the Code of Federal Regulations, Articles IX(5) and XIII of the Cape Town Treaty shall apply to the matters described in subsection (b) until the earlier of the effective date of the final rule under this section or December 31, 2004.”

CAPE TOWN TREATY; FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

Pub. L. 108-297, §2, Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1095, provided that:

“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

“(1) The Cape Town Treaty (as defined in section 44113 of title 49, United States Code) extends modern commercial laws for the sale, finance, and lease of aircraft and aircraft engines to the international arena in a manner consistent with United States law and practice.

“(2) The Cape Town Treaty provides for internationally established and recognized financing and leasing rights that will provide greater security and commercial predictability in connection with the financing and leasing of highly mobile assets, such as aircraft and aircraft engines.

“(3) The legal and financing framework of the Cape Town Treaty will provide substantial economic benefits to the aviation and aerospace sectors, including

the promotion of exports, and will facilitate the acquisition of newer, safer aircraft around the world.

“(4) Only technical changes to United States law and regulations are required since the asset-based financing and leasing concepts embodied in the Cape Town Treaty are already reflected in the United States in the Uniform Commercial Code.

“(5) The new electronic registry system established under the Cape Town Treaty will work in tandem with current aircraft document recordation systems of the Federal Aviation Administration, which have served United States industry well.

“(6) The United States Government was a leader in the development of the Cape Town Treaty.

“(b) PURPOSE.—Accordingly, the purpose of this Act [see Short Title of 2004 Amendment note set out under section 40101 of this title] is to provide for the implementation of the Cape Town Treaty in the United States by making certain technical amendments to the provisions of chapter 441 of title 49, United States Code, directing the Federal Aviation Administration to complete the necessary rulemaking processes as expeditiously as possible, and clarifying the applicability of the Treaty during the rulemaking process.”

§ 44102. Registration requirements

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—An aircraft may be registered under section 44103 of this title only when the aircraft is—

(1) not registered under the laws of a foreign country and is owned by—

(A) a citizen of the United States;

(B) an individual citizen of a foreign country lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States; or

(C) a corporation not a citizen of the United States when the corporation is organized and doing business under the laws of the United States or a State, and the aircraft is based and primarily used in the United States; or

(2) an aircraft of—

(A) the United States Government; or

(B) a State, the District of Columbia, a territory or possession of the United States, or a political subdivision of a State, territory, or possession.

(b) DUTY TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERM.—In carrying out subsection (a)(1)(C) of this section, the Secretary of Transportation shall define “based and primarily used in the United States”.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1161.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| Revised Section | Source (U.S. Code) | Source (Statutes at Large) |
|-----------------|---|---|
| 44102(a)(1) .. | 49 App.:1401(b) (1st sentence cl. (1)). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §501(b), 72 Stat. 772; re-stated Nov. 9, 1977, Pub. L. 95-163, §14, 91 Stat. 1283; Mar. 8, 1978, Pub. L. 95-241, 92 Stat. 119. |
| 44102(a)(2) .. | 49 App.:1401(b) (1st sentence cl. (2)). | |
| 44102(b) | 49 App.:1401(b) (last sentence). | |

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “may be registered” are substituted for “shall be eligible for registration”, and the words “under section 44103 of this title” are added, for clarity. The words “only when” are substituted for “if, but only if” for consistency. In subclause (C), the words “not a citizen of the United States” are substituted for “(other than a corporation which is a citizen of the United States)” to

eliminate unnecessary words. The word “lawfully” is omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), the words “In carrying out subsection (a)(1)(C) of this section” are added because of the restatement. The words “by regulation” are omitted as unnecessary because of 49:322(a).

§ 44103. Registration of aircraft

(a) GENERAL.—(1) On application of the owner of an aircraft that meets the requirements of section 44102 of this title, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall—

(A) register the aircraft; and

(B) issue a certificate of registration to its owner.

(2) The Administrator may prescribe the extent to which an aircraft owned by the holder of a dealer’s certificate of registration issued under section 44104(2) of this title also is registered under this section.

(b) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE VIOLATIONS.—(1) The Administrator may not issue an owner’s certificate of registration under subsection (a)(1) of this section to a person whose certificate is revoked under section 44106 of this title during the 5-year period beginning on the date of the revocation, except—

(A) as provided in section 44106(e)(2) of this title; or

(B) that the Administrator may issue the certificate to the person after the one-year period beginning on the date of the revocation if the Administrator decides that the aircraft otherwise meets the requirements of section 44102 of this title and that denial of a certificate for the 5-year period—

(i) would be excessive considering the nature of the offense or the act committed and the burden the denial places on the person; or

(ii) would not be in the public interest.

(2) A decision of the Administrator under paragraph (1)(B)(i) or (ii) of this subsection is within the discretion of the Administrator. That decision or failure to make a decision is not subject to administrative or judicial review.

(c) CERTIFICATES AS EVIDENCE.—A certificate of registration issued under this section is—

(1) conclusive evidence of the nationality of an aircraft for international purposes, but not conclusive evidence in a proceeding under the laws of the United States; and

(2) not evidence of ownership of an aircraft in a proceeding in which ownership is or may be in issue.

(d) CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION.—An operator of an aircraft shall make available for inspection a certificate of registration for the aircraft when requested by a United States Government, State, or local law enforcement officer.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1162.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|--|---|
| | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89–670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444. |
| 44103(a)(2) .. | 49 App.:1405 (2d sentence). | |
| 44103(b) | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). 49 App.:1401(e)(2)(D), (E). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, 72 Stat. 731, §501(e)(2)(D), (E); added Oct. 19, 1984, Pub. L. 98–499, §4(a), 98 Stat. 2315. |
| 44103(c) | 49 App.:1401(f). | |
| 44103(d) | 49 App.:1401(g). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, 72 Stat. 731, §501(g); added Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99–570, §3401(a)(2), 100 Stat. 3207–99. |

In subsection (a)(1), the words “On application” are substituted for “upon request”, and the words “meets the requirements of section 44102 of this title” are substituted for “eligible for registration”, for consistency in this subchapter. The text of 49 App.:1401(d) is omitted as unnecessary because of 49:322(a).

In subsection (b)(1)(B), before subclause (i), the words “after the one-year period beginning on the date of the revocation” are substituted for “before the end of such five-year period (but not before the end of the one-year period beginning on the date of such revocation)” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “otherwise meets the requirements of section 44102 of this title” are substituted for “is otherwise eligible for registration under this section” because of the restatement. The words “denial of a certificate” are substituted for “revocation of the certificate” for clarity.

In subsection (c), before clause (1), the words “A certificate of registration” are substituted for “Registration” for clarity. In clause (2), the words “by a particular person” are omitted as surplus.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION

Pub. L. 115–254, div. B, title V, §556, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3383, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 5, 2018], the Administrator [of the Federal Aviation Administration] shall initiate a rulemaking to increase the duration of aircraft registrations for noncommercial general aviation aircraft to 7 years.

“(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In promulgating the notice of proposed rulemaking described in subsection (a), the Administrator may consider any events, circumstances, changes in any ownership entity or structure, or other condition that would necessitate renewal prior to the expiration of an aircraft registration.”

RIGHT TO PRIVACY WHEN USING AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM

Pub. L. 115–254, div. B, title V, §566, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3385, provided that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administrator [of the Federal Aviation Administration] shall, upon request of a private aircraft owner or operator, block the registration number of the aircraft of the owner or operator from any public dissemination or display, except in data made available to a Government agency, for the non-commercial flights of the owner or operator.”

AIRCRAFT SITUATIONAL DISPLAY DATA

Pub. L. 106–181, title VII, §729, Apr. 5, 2000, 114 Stat. 168, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A memorandum of agreement between the Administrator [of the Federal Aviation Administration] and any person that directly obtains aircraft situational display data from the Federal Aviation Administration shall require that—

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 44103(a)(1) .. | 49 App.:1401(c), (d). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, §§501(c), (d), (f), 505 (2d sentence), 72 Stat. 772, 774. |

“(1) the person demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Administrator that the person is capable of selectively blocking the display of any aircraft-situation-display-to-industry derived data related to any identified aircraft registration number; and

“(2) the person agree to block selectively the aircraft registration numbers of any aircraft owner or operator upon the Administrator’s request.

“(b) EXISTING MEMORANDA TO BE CONFORMED.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 5, 2000], the Administrator shall conform any memoranda of agreement, in effect on such date of enactment, between the Federal Aviation Administration and a person under which that person obtains aircraft situational display data to incorporate the requirements of subsection (a).”

§ 44104. Registration of aircraft components and dealers’ certificates of registration

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may prescribe regulations—

(1) in the interest of safety for registering and identifying an aircraft engine, propeller, or appliance; and

(2) in the public interest for issuing, suspending, and revoking a dealer’s certificate of registration under this chapter and for its use by a person manufacturing, distributing, or selling aircraft.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1162.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| Revised Section | Source (U.S. Code) | Source (Statutes at Large) |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---|
| 44104(1) | 49 App.:1402. | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, §§ 502, 505 (1st sentence), 72 Stat. 772, 774. |
| | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89–670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444. |
| 44104(2) | 49 App.:1405 (1st sentence). | |
| | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | |

In this section, before clause (1), the words “prescribe regulations” are substituted for “establish reasonable rules and regulations” in 49 App.:1402 and “by such reasonable regulations” in 49 App.:1405 (1st sentence) because of 49:322(a). In clause (1), the words “and no aircraft engine, propeller, or appliance shall be used in violation of any such rule or regulation” are omitted as surplus because of section 46301 of the revised title. In clause (2), the words “in connection with” are omitted as surplus.

§ 44105. Suspension and revocation of aircraft certificates

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may suspend or revoke a certificate of registration issued under section 44103 of this title when the aircraft no longer meets the requirements of section 44102 of this title.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1163.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| Revised Section | Source (U.S. Code) | Source (Statutes at Large) |
|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| 44105 | 49 App.:1401(e)(1). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, §501(e)(1), 72 Stat. 772; Oct. 19, 1984, Pub. L. 98–499, §4(a), 98 Stat. 2314. |
| | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89–670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444. |

The words “when the aircraft no longer meets” are substituted for “for any cause which renders the aircraft ineligible” for consistency.

§ 44106. Revocation of aircraft certificates for controlled substance violations

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, “controlled substance” has the same meaning given that term in section 102 of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 802).

(b) REVOCATIONS.—(1) The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall issue an order revoking the certificate of registration for an aircraft issued to an owner under section 44103 of this title and any other certificate of registration that the owner of the aircraft holds under section 44103, if the Administrator finds that—

(A) the aircraft was used to carry out, or facilitate, an activity that is punishable by death or imprisonment for more than one year under a law of the United States or a State related to a controlled substance (except a law related to simple possession of a controlled substance); and

(B) the owner of the aircraft permitted the use of the aircraft knowing that the aircraft was to be used for the activity described in clause (A) of this paragraph.

(2) An aircraft owner that is not an individual is deemed to have permitted the use of the aircraft knowing that the aircraft was to be used for the activity described in paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection only if a majority of the individuals who control the owner of the aircraft or who are involved in forming the major policy of the owner permitted the use of the aircraft knowing that the aircraft was to be used for the activity described in paragraph (1)(A).

(c) ADVICE TO HOLDERS AND OPPORTUNITY TO ANSWER.—Before the Administrator revokes a certificate under subsection (b) of this section, the Administrator shall—

(1) advise the holder of the certificate of the charges or reasons on which the Administrator bases the proposed action; and

(2) provide the holder of the certificate an opportunity to answer the charges and state why the certificate should not be revoked.

(d) APPEALS.—(1) A person whose certificate is revoked by the Administrator under subsection (b) of this section may appeal the revocation order to the National Transportation Safety Board. The Board shall affirm or reverse the order after providing notice and a hearing on the record. In conducting the hearing, the Board is not bound by the findings of fact of the Administrator.

(2) When a person files an appeal with the Board under this subsection, the order of the Administrator revoking the certificate is stayed. However, if the Administrator advises the Board that safety in air transportation or air commerce requires the immediate effectiveness of the order—

(A) the order remains effective; and

(B) the Board shall dispose of the appeal not later than 60 days after notification by the Administrator under this paragraph.

(3) A person substantially affected by an order of the Board under this subsection may seek judicial review of the order under section 46110 of this title. The Administrator shall be made a party to that judicial proceeding.

(e) ACQUITTAL.—(1) The Administrator may not revoke, and the Board may not affirm a revocation of, a certificate of registration under this section on the basis of an activity described in subsection (b)(1)(A) of this section if the holder of the certificate is acquitted of all charges related to a controlled substance in an indictment or information arising from the activity.

(2) If the Administrator has revoked a certificate of registration of a person under this section because of an activity described in subsection (b)(1)(A) of this section, the Administrator shall reissue a certificate to the person if the person—

(A) subsequently is acquitted of all charges related to a controlled substance in an indictment or information arising from the activity; and

(B) otherwise meets the requirements of section 44102 of this title.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1163.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 44106(a) | 49 App.:1401(e)(2)(C). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, 72 Stat. 731, §501(e)(2)(A)–(C), (F); added Oct. 19, 1984, Pub. L. 98–499, §4(a), 98 Stat. 2314, 2315. |
| 44106(b) | 49 App.:1401(e)(2)(A) (less last sentence). | |
| 44106(c) | 49 App.:1401(e)(2)(B) (1st sentence). | |
| 44106(d) | 49 App.:1401(e)(2)(B) (2d–last sentences). | |
| 44106(e) | 49 App.:1401(e)(2)(A) (last sentence), (F). | |

In subsection (b)(2), the words “knowing that the aircraft was to be used for the activity described in paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection” are substituted for “with knowledge of such intended use” for clarity.

§ 44107. Recordation of conveyances, leases, and security instruments

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall establish a system for recording—

(1) conveyances that affect an interest in civil aircraft of the United States;

(2) leases and instruments executed for security purposes, including conditional sales contracts, assignments, and amendments, that affect an interest in—

(A) a specifically identified aircraft engine having at least 550 rated takeoff horsepower or its equivalent;

(B) a specifically identified aircraft propeller capable of absorbing at least 750 rated takeoff shaft horsepower;

(C) an aircraft engine, propeller, or appliance maintained for installation or use in an aircraft, aircraft engine, or propeller, by or for an air carrier holding a certificate issued under section 44705 of this title; and

(D) spare parts maintained by or for an air carrier holding a certificate issued under section 44705 of this title; and

(3) releases, cancellations, discharges, and satisfactions related to a conveyance, lease, or instrument recorded under paragraph (1) or (2).

(b) GENERAL DESCRIPTION REQUIRED.—A lease or instrument recorded under subsection (a)(2)(C) or (D) of this section only has to describe generally the engine, propeller, appliance, or spare part by type and designate its location.

(c) ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—Except as the Administrator otherwise may provide, a conveyance, lease, or instrument may be recorded under subsection (a) of this section only after it has been acknowledged before—

(1) a notary public; or

(2) another officer authorized under the laws of the United States, a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the United States to acknowledge deeds.

(d) RECORDS AND INDEXES.—The Administrator shall—

(1) keep a record of the time and date that each conveyance, lease, and instrument is filed and recorded with the Administrator; and

(2) record each conveyance, lease, and instrument filed with the Administrator, in the order of their receipt, and index them by—

(A) the identifying description of the aircraft, aircraft engine, or propeller, or location specified in a lease or instrument recorded under subsection (a)(2)(C) or (D) of this section; and

(B) the names of the parties to each conveyance, lease, and instrument.

(e) INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY.—

(1) DESIGNATION OF UNITED STATES ENTRY POINT.—As permitted under the Cape Town Treaty, the Federal Aviation Administration Civil Aviation Registry is designated as the United States Entry Point to the International Registry relating to—

(A) civil aircraft of the United States;

(B) an aircraft for which a United States identification number has been assigned but only with regard to a notice filed under paragraph (2); and

(C) aircraft engines.

(2) SYSTEM FOR FILING NOTICE OF PROSPECTIVE INTERESTS.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish a system for filing notices of prospective assignments and prospective international interests in, and prospective sales of, aircraft or aircraft engines described in paragraph (1) under the Cape Town Treaty.

(B) MAINTENANCE OF VALIDITY.—A filing of a notice of prospective assignment, interest, or sale under this paragraph and the registration with the International Registry relating to such assignment, interest, or sale shall not be valid after the 60th day following the date of the filing unless documents eligible for recording under subsection (a) relating to such notice are filed for recordation on or before such 60th day.

(3) AUTHORIZATION FOR REGISTRATION OF AIRCRAFT.—A registration with the International Registry relating to an aircraft described in paragraph (1) (other than subparagraph (C)) is valid only if (A) the person seeking the registration first files documents eligible for recording under subsection (a) and relating to the registration with the United States Entry Point, and (B) the United States Entry Point authorizes the registration.

(Pub. L. 103–272, § 1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1164; Pub. L. 108–297, § 3, Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1096.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|--|--|
| 44107(a)(1) .. | 49 App.:1403(a)(1). 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, § 503(a)(1), (3), (b), 72 Stat. 772. Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89–670, § 6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, § 7(b), 96 Stat. 2444. |
| 44107(a) (2)(A), (B). | 49 App.:1403(a)(2). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, § 503(a)(2), 72 Stat. 772; re-stated July 8, 1959, Pub. L. 86–81, § 1, 73 Stat. 180. |
| 44107(a) (2)(C), (D). | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). 49 App.:1403(a)(3) (less words between 13th comma and semicolon). | |
| 44107(a)(3) .. | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). 49 App.:1403(b). | |
| 44107(b) | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). 49 App.:1403(a)(3) (words between 13th comma and semicolon). | |
| 44107(c) | 49 App.:1403(e). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, § 503(e), 72 Stat. 773; re-stated June 30, 1964, Pub. L. 88–346, § 2, 78 Stat. 236. |
| 44107(d) | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). 49 App.:1403(f). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, § 503(f), 72 Stat. 773; July 8, 1959, Pub. L. 86–81, § 4, 73 Stat. 181. |
| | 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | |

In subsection (a)(1) and (2), the words “title to” are omitted as being included in “interest in”.

In subsection (a)(2), before subclause (A), the word “instruments” is substituted for “any mortgage, equipment trust . . . or other instrument” because it is inclusive. The word “supplement” is omitted as being included in “amendments”.

In subsection (a)(3), the words “The Secretary of Transportation shall also record under the system” are omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement.

In subsections (a)(3) and (c), the words “lease, or instrument” are substituted for “other instrument” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter.

In subsections (b) and (d), the words “or locations” are omitted because of 1:1.

In subsection (b), the words “recorded under subsection (a)(2)(C) or (D) of this section” are added for clarity. The words “lease or instrument” are substituted for “instrument” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter.

In subsection (c), before clause (1), the words “by regulation” are omitted because of 49:322(a). In clause (2), the words “possession of the United States” are substituted for “possession thereof” for clarity.

In subsection (d), the words “lease, and instrument” are substituted for “other instruments” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter. In clause (1), the words “of the time and date of” before “recordation” are omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement. In clause (2), before subclause (A), the words “in files to be kept for that purpose” are omitted as unnecessary. In subclause (A), the words “location specified in a lease or instrument recorded under subsection (a)(2)(C) or (D) of this section” are substituted for “in the case of an

instrument referred to in subsection (a)(3) of this section, the location or locations specified therein” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 108–297, § 3(a)(1), substituted “550” for “750”.

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 108–297, § 3(a)(2), substituted “paragraph (1) or (2)” for “clause (1) or (2) of this subsection”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 108–297, § 3(b), added subsec. (e).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108–297 effective Mar. 1, 2006, and not applicable to any registration or recordation that was made before such date under this chapter or any legal rights relating to such registration or recordation, see section 7 of Pub. L. 108–297, set out as a note under section 44101 of this title.

§ 44108. Validity of conveyances, leases, and security instruments

(a) VALIDITY BEFORE FILING.—Until a conveyance, lease, or instrument executed for security purposes that may be recorded under section 44107(a)(1) or (2) of this title is filed for recording, the conveyance, lease, or instrument is valid only against—

- (1) the person making the conveyance, lease, or instrument;
- (2) that person’s heirs and devisees; and
- (3) a person having actual notice of the conveyance, lease, or instrument.

(b) PERIOD OF VALIDITY.—When a conveyance, lease, or instrument is recorded under section 44107 of this title, the conveyance, lease, or instrument is valid from the date of filing against all persons, without other recordation, except that—

- (1) a lease or instrument recorded under section 44107(a)(2)(A) or (B) of this title is valid for a specifically identified engine or propeller without regard to a lease or instrument previously or subsequently recorded under section 44107(a)(2)(C) or (D); and
- (2) a lease or instrument recorded under section 44107(a)(2)(C) or (D) of this title is valid only for items at the location designated in the lease or instrument.

(c) APPLICABLE LAWS.—(1) The validity of a conveyance, lease, or instrument that may be recorded under section 44107 of this title is subject to the laws of the State, the District of Columbia, or the territory or possession of the United States at which the conveyance, lease, or instrument is delivered, regardless of the place at which the subject of the conveyance, lease, or instrument is located or delivered. If the conveyance, lease, or instrument specifies the place at which delivery is intended, it is presumed that the conveyance, lease, or instrument was delivered at the specified place.

(2) This subsection does not take precedence over the Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft (4 U.S.T. 1830) or the Cape Town Treaty, as applicable.

(d) NONAPPLICATION.—This section does not apply to—

(1) a conveyance described in section 44107(a)(1) of this title that was made before August 22, 1938; or

(2) a lease or instrument described in section 44107(a)(2) of this title that was made before June 20, 1948.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1165; Pub. L. 108-297, §5, Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1097.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 44108(a) | 49 App.:1403(c) (less words after semicolon). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §503(c), 72 Stat. 773. |
| 44108(b) | 49 App.:1403(d). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §503(d), 72 Stat. 773; July 8, 1959, Pub. L. 86-81, §3, 73 Stat. 181. |
| 44108(c)(1) .. | 49 App.:1406. | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §506; added June 30, 1964, Pub. L. 88-346, §1(a), 78 Stat. 236. |
| 44108(c)(2) .. | 49 App.:1406 (note). | June 30, 1964, Pub. L. 88-346, §1(c), 78 Stat. 236. |
| 44108(d) | 49 App.:1403(c) (words after semicolon). | |

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “conveyance, lease, or instrument executed for security purposes” are substituted for “conveyance or instrument” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter. The words “in respect of such aircraft, aircraft engine or engines, propellers, appliances, or spare parts” are omitted as surplus. The text of 49 App.:1403(c) (proviso words before semicolon) is omitted because of section 7(d) of this bill. In clause (1), the words “person making the conveyance, lease, or instrument” are substituted for “the person by whom the conveyance or other instrument is made or given” to eliminate unnecessary words and for consistency in this subchapter.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “When a conveyance, lease, or instrument is recorded under section 44107 of this title . . . from the date of filing” are substituted for “Each conveyance or other instrument recorded by means of or under the system provided for in subsection (a) or (b) of the section shall from the time of its filing for recordation” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter and to eliminate unnecessary words. In clause (1), the words “is valid” are substituted for “*Provided*, That . . . shall not be affected” for consistency in this subchapter. The words “or engines . . . or propellers” are omitted because of 1:1. In clause (2), the words “is valid” are substituted for “shall be effective” for consistency in this subchapter. The words “for items at the location designated in the lease or instrument” are substituted for “which may from time to time be situated at the designated location or locations and only while so situated” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (c)(1), the words “conveyance, lease, or” are added for consistency in this subchapter. The words “the conveyance, lease, or instrument” are substituted for “therein”, and the words “it is presumed” are substituted for “it shall constitute presumptive evidence”, for clarity.

In subsection (d)(2), the words “lease or instrument” are substituted for “instrument” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 108-297 inserted “or the Cape Town Treaty, as applicable” before period at end.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108-297 effective Mar. 1, 2006, and not applicable to any registration or recordation

that was made before such date under this chapter or any legal rights relating to such registration or recordation, see section 7 of Pub. L. 108-297, set out as a note under section 44101 of this title.

§ 44109. Reporting transfer of ownership

(a) **FILING NOTICES.**—A person having an ownership interest in an aircraft for which a certificate of registration was issued under section 44103 of this title shall file a notice with the Secretary of the Treasury that the Secretary requires by regulation, not later than 15 days after a sale, conditional sale, transfer, or conveyance of the interest.

(b) **EXEMPTIONS.**—The Secretary—

(1) shall prescribe regulations that establish guidelines for exempting a person or class from subsection (a) of this section; and

(2) may exempt a person or class under the regulations.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1166.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 44109(a) | 49 App.:1509(f). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §1109(f); added Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, §3401(d)(1), 100 Stat. 3207-101. |
| 44109(b) | 49 App.:1509 (note). | Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, §3401(d)(2), 100 Stat. 3207-102. |

In subsection (a), the text of 49 App.:1509(f) (last sentence) is omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (b)(1), the words “Within 30 days after the date of enactment of subsection (f) of section 1109 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 as added by this subsection” are omitted as obsolete.

§ 44110. Information about aircraft ownership and rights

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may provide by regulation for—

(1) endorsing information on each certificate of registration issued under section 44103 of this title and each certificate issued under section 44704 of this title about ownership of the aircraft for which each certificate is issued; and

(2) recording transactions affecting an interest in, and for other records, proceedings, and details necessary to decide the rights of a party related to, a civil aircraft of the United States, aircraft engine, propeller, appliance, or spare part.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1166.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 44110 | 49 App.:1403(g). 49 App.:1655(c)(1). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §503(g), 72 Stat. 774. Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97-449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444. |

In clause (1), the words “each certificate of registration issued under section 44103 of this title and each certificate issued under section 44704 of this title” are substituted for “certificates of registration, or aircraft

certificates” for clarity and because of the restatement.

In clause (2), the words “recording transactions” are substituted for “recording of discharges and satisfactions of recorded instruments, and other transactions” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “title to” are omitted as being included in “interest in”. The words “to decide” are substituted for “to facilitate the determination” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “related to” are substituted for “dealing with” for clarity. The word “spare” is added for consistency in this section.

§ 44111. Modifications in registration and recordation system for aircraft not providing air transportation

(a) APPLICATION.—This section applies only to aircraft not used to provide air transportation.

(b) AUTHORITY TO MAKE MODIFICATIONS.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall make modifications in the system for registering and recording aircraft necessary to make the system more effective in serving the needs of—

(1) buyers and sellers of aircraft;

(2) officials responsible for enforcing laws related to the regulation of controlled substances (as defined in section 102 of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 802)); and

(3) other users of the system.

(c) NATURE OF MODIFICATIONS.—Modifications made under subsection (b) of this section—

(1) may include a system of titling aircraft or registering all aircraft, even aircraft not operated;

(2) shall ensure positive, verifiable, and timely identification of the true owner; and

(3) shall address at least each of the following deficiencies in and abuses of the existing system:

(A) the registration of aircraft to fictitious persons.

(B) the use of false or nonexistent addresses by persons registering aircraft.

(C) the use by a person registering an aircraft of a post office box or “mail drop” as a return address to evade identification of the person’s address.

(D) the registration of aircraft to entities established to facilitate unlawful activities.

(E) the submission of names of individuals on applications for registration of aircraft that are not identifiable.

(F) the ability to make frequent legal changes in the registration markings assigned to aircraft.

(G) the use of false registration markings on aircraft.

(H) the illegal use of “reserved” registration markings on aircraft.

(I) the large number of aircraft classified as being in “self-reported status”.

(J) the lack of a system to ensure timely and adequate notice of the transfer of ownership of aircraft.

(K) the practice of allowing temporary operation and navigation of aircraft without the issuance of a certificate of registration.

(d) REGULATIONS.—(1) The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall pre-

scribe regulations to carry out this section and provide a written explanation of how the regulations address each of the deficiencies and abuses described in subsection (c) of this section. In prescribing the regulations, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall consult with the Administrator of Drug Enforcement, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, other law enforcement officials of the United States Government, representatives of State and local law enforcement officials, representatives of the general aviation aircraft industry, representatives of users of general aviation aircraft, and other interested persons.

(2) Regulations prescribed under this subsection shall require that—

(A) each individual listed in an application for registration of an aircraft provide with the application the individual’s driver’s license number; and

(B) each person (not an individual) listed in an application for registration of an aircraft provide with the application the person’s taxpayer identifying number.

(Pub. L. 103–272, § 1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1166; Pub. L. 114–125, title VIII, § 802(d)(2), Feb. 24, 2016, 130 Stat. 210.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 44111(a) | 49 App.:1303 (note). | Nov. 11, 1988, Pub. L. 100–690, § 7214, 102 Stat. 4434. |
| 44111(b) | 49 App.:1401(h) (1st sentence). | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, 72 Stat. 731, § 501(h); added Nov. 11, 1988, Pub. L. 100–690, § 7203(a), 102 Stat. 4424. |
| 44111(c) | 49 App.:1401(h) (last sentence). | |
| 44111(d) | 49 App.:1401 (note). | Nov. 18, 1988, Pub. L. 100–690, § 7207(a), (b), 102 Stat. 4427. |

In subsection (c)(3)(D), the words “corporations and others” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (d)(1), the words “Not later than September 18, 1989” and “final” are omitted as obsolete. The words “Administrator of Drug Enforcement” are substituted for “Drug Enforcement Administration of the Department of Justice” because of section 5(a) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1973 (eff. July 1, 1973, 87 Stat. 1092).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

“Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection” substituted for “Commissioner of Customs” in subsec. (d)(1) on authority of section 802(d)(2) of Pub. L. 114–125, set out as a note under section 211 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

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. For establishment of U.S. Customs and Border Protection in the Department of Homeland Security, treated as if included in Pub. L. 107–296 as of Nov. 25, 2002, see section 211 of Title 6, as amended gen-

erally by Pub. L. 114-125, and section 802(b) of Pub. L. 114-125, set out as a note under section 211 of Title 6.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT STATUS AND PROGRESS; REPORTS TO CONGRESS; DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7207(d), (e), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4428, provided that:

“(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subtitle [Nov. 18, 1988] and annually thereafter during the 5-year period beginning on such 180th day, the Administrator shall prepare and transmit to Congress a report on the following:

“(1) The status of the rulemaking process, issuance of regulations, and implementation of regulations in accordance with this section [see subsec. (d) of this section].

“(2) The progress being made in reducing the number of aircraft classified by the Federal Aviation Administration as being in ‘sale-reported status’.

“(3) The progress being made in expediting the filing and processing of forms for major repairs and alterations of fuel tanks and fuel systems of aircraft.

“(4) The status of establishing and collecting fees under section 313(f) of the Federal Aviation Act [see section 45302(b) of this title].

“(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this subtitle [subtitle E (§§7201-7214) of title VII of Pub. L. 100-690, see Tables for classification]—

“(1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term ‘Administrator’ means the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

“(2) **AIRCRAFT.**—The term ‘aircraft’ has the meaning such term has under section 101 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 [see section 40102 of this title].”

INFORMATION COORDINATION

Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7210, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4432, provided that: “Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subtitle [Nov. 18, 1988] and annually thereafter during the 3-year period beginning on such 180th day, the Administrator shall prepare and transmit to Congress a report on the following:

“(1) The progress made in establishing a process for provision of informational assistance by such Administration to officials of Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies.

“(2) The progress made in establishing a process for effectively pursuing suspensions and revocations of certificates of registration and airman certificates in accordance with the amendments made to the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 by the Aviation Drug-Trafficking Control Act [Pub. L. 98-499, see Tables for classification], section 3401 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 [Pub. L. 99-570], and this subtitle [subtitle E (§§7201-7214) of title VII of Pub. L. 100-690].

“(3) The efforts of such Administration in assessing and defining the appropriate relationship of such Administration’s informational assistance resources (including the El Paso Intelligence Center and the Law Enforcement Assistance Unit of the Aeronautical Center of such Administration).

“(4) The progress made in issuing guidelines on (A) the reporting of aviation sensitive drug-related information, and (B) the development, in coordination with the Drug Enforcement Administration of the Department of Justice and the United States Customs Service, of training and educational policies to assist employees of such Administration to better understand (i) the trafficking of controlled substances (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act [21 U.S.C. 802]), and (ii) the role of such Administration with respect to such trafficking.

“(5) The progress made in improving and expanding such Administration’s role in the El Paso Intelligence Center.”

APPLICABILITY OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7211(b), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4433, provided that: “No information collection

requests necessary to carry out the objectives of this subtitle [subtitle E (§§7201-7214) of title VII of Pub. L. 100-690, see Tables for classification] (including the amendments made by this subtitle) shall be subject to or affect, directly or indirectly, the annual information collection budget goals established for the Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Transportation under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code.”

§ 44112. Limitation of liability

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) “lessor” means a person leasing for at least 30 days a civil aircraft, aircraft engine, or propeller.

(2) “owner” means a person that owns a civil aircraft, aircraft engine, or propeller.

(3) “secured party” means a person having a security interest in, or security title to, a civil aircraft, aircraft engine, or propeller under a conditional sales contract, equipment trust contract, chattel or corporate mortgage, or similar instrument.

(b) **LIABILITY.**—A lessor, owner, or secured party is liable for personal injury, death, or property loss or damage only when a civil aircraft, aircraft engine, or propeller is in the actual possession or operational control of the lessor, owner, or secured party, and the personal injury, death, or property loss or damage occurs because of—

(1) the aircraft, engine, or propeller; or

(2) the flight of, or an object falling from, the aircraft, engine, or propeller.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1167; Pub. L. 115-254, div. B, title V, §514, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3358.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 44112 | 49 App.:1404. | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §504, 72 Stat. 774; restated July 8, 1959, Pub. L. 86-81, §2, 73 Stat. 180. |

In subsection (a), clauses (1) and (3) are derived from 49 App.:1404 (2d-57th words). Clause (2) is added for clarity. In clause (1), the words “bona fide” are omitted as surplus. In clause (3), the word “nature” is omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “personal injury, death” are substituted for “any injury to or death of persons”, and the words “on land or water” are substituted for “on the surface of the earth (whether on land or water)”, to eliminate unnecessary words. In clause (2), the words “ascent, descent, or” and “dropping or” are omitted as surplus.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-254, in introductory provisions, struck out “on land or water” before “only when” and inserted “operational” before “control”.

§ 44113. Definitions

In this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(1) **CAPE TOWN TREATY.**—The term “Cape Town Treaty” means the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment, as modified by the Protocol to the Convention on

International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Aircraft Equipment, signed at Rome on May 9, 2003.

(2) UNITED STATES ENTRY POINT.—The term “United States Entry Point” means the Federal Aviation Administration Civil Aviation Registry.

(3) INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY.—The term “International Registry” means the registry established under the Cape Town Treaty.

(Added Pub. L. 108-297, §6(a), Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1097.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Mar. 1, 2006, and not applicable to any registration or recordation that was made before such date under this chapter or any legal rights relating to such registration or recordation, see section 7 of Pub. L. 108-297, set out as an Effective Date of 2004 Amendment note under section 44101 of this title.

CHAPTER 443—INSURANCE

| Sec. | |
|---------|--|
| 44301. | Definitions. |
| 44302. | General authority. |
| 44302a. | Temporary insurance. |
| 44303. | Coverage. |
| 44304. | Reinsurance. |
| 44305. | Insuring United States Government property. |
| 44306. | Premiums and limitations on coverage and claims. |
| 44307. | Revolving fund. |
| 44308. | Administrative. |
| 44309. | Civil actions. |
| 44310. | Ending effective date. |

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2022—Pub. L. 117-328, div. Q, §103(c), Dec. 29, 2022, 136 Stat. 5252, added item 44302a.

§ 44301. Definitions

In this chapter—

(1) “aircraft manufacturer” means any company or other business entity, the majority ownership and control of which is by United States citizens, that manufactures aircraft or aircraft engines.

(2) “American aircraft” means—

(A) a civil aircraft of the United States; and

(B) an aircraft owned or chartered by, or made available to—

(i) the United States Government; or

(ii) a State, the District of Columbia, a territory or possession of the United States, or a political subdivision of the State, territory, or possession.

(3) “insurance carrier” means a person authorized to do aviation insurance business in a State, including a mutual or stock insurance company and a reciprocal insurance association.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1168; Pub. L. 108-176, title I, §106(a)(2), Dec. 12, 2003, 117 Stat. 2498.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| Revised Section | Source (U.S. Code) | Source (Statutes at Large) |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|
| 44301 | 49 App.:1531. | Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §1301, 72 Stat. 800; re-stated Nov. 9, 1977, Pub. L. 95-163, §1(a), 91 Stat. 1278. |

In this section, the text of 49 App.:1531(3) is omitted as surplus because the complete name of the Secretary of Transportation is used the first time the term appears in a section.

In clause (1)(B)(i), the words “United States Government” are substituted for “United States or any department or agency thereof” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

In clause (1)(B)(ii), the words “the government of” are omitted for consistency in the revised title.

In clause (2), the words “insurance company” are omitted as being included in “insurance carrier”. The words “means a person” are added because they are inclusive. The words “group or association” are omitted as being included in “person”. The word “State” is substituted for “State of the United States” to eliminate unnecessary words.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2003—Pub. L. 108-176 added par. (1) and redesignated former pars. (1) and (2) as (2) and (3), respectively.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2003 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108-176 applicable only to fiscal years beginning after Sept. 30, 2003, except as otherwise specifically provided, see section 3 of Pub. L. 108-176, set out as a note under section 106 of this title.

§ 44302. General authority

(a) INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE.—(1) Subject to subsection (c) of this section and section 44305(a) of this title, the Secretary of Transportation may provide insurance and reinsurance against loss or damage arising out of any risk from the operation of an American aircraft or foreign-flag aircraft.

(2) An aircraft may be insured or reinsured for not more than its reasonable value as determined by the Secretary in accordance with reasonable business practices in the commercial aviation insurance industry. Insurance or reinsurance may be provided only when the Secretary decides that the insurance cannot be obtained on reasonable terms from an insurance carrier.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT OF INSURANCE COST INCREASES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may reimburse an air carrier for the increase in the cost of insurance, with respect to a premium for coverage ending before October 1, 2002, against loss or damage arising out of any risk from the operation of an American aircraft over the insurance premium that was in effect for a comparable operation during the period beginning September 4, 2001, and ending September 10, 2001, as the Secretary may determine. Such reimbursement is subject to subsections (a)(2), (c), and (d) of this section and to section 44303.

(2) PAYMENT FROM REVOLVING FUND.—A reimbursement under this subsection shall be paid