

Subsec. (e)(1)(D). Pub. L. 100-238, §133(a)(3), inserted “only” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e)(2), (3). Pub. L. 100-238, §133(a)(5), added pars. (2) and (3) and struck out former pars. (2) and (3) which read as follows:

“(2) A civil action may be brought in the district courts of the United States—

“(A) by the Secretary of Labor—

“(i) to determine and enforce a liability under paragraph (1)(A);

“(ii) to collect any civil penalty under paragraph (1)(B); or

“(iii) to enjoin any act or practice which violates subsection (g)(2) or (h) of section 8472 of this title;

“(B) by the Secretary of Labor, any participant, beneficiary, or fiduciary—

“(i) to enjoin any act or practice which violates any provision of subsection (b) or (c); or

“(ii) to obtain any other appropriate equitable relief to redress a violation of any such provision; or

“(C) by any participant or beneficiary to recover benefits due to him or her under the provisions of subchapter III of this chapter, to enforce his or her rights under such provisions, or to clarify his or her rights to future benefits under such provisions.

“(3) An action may not be commenced under paragraph (2) with respect to a fiduciary’s breach of any responsibility, duty, or obligation under subsection (b) or a violation of subsection (c) after the earlier of—

“(A) 6 years after (i) the date of the last action which constituted a part of the breach or violation, or (ii) in the case of an omission, the latest date on which the fiduciary could have cured the breach or violation; or

“(B) 3 years after the earliest date on which the plaintiff had actual knowledge of the breach or violation, except that, in the case of fraud or concealment, such action may be commenced not later than 6 years after the date of discovery of such breach or violation.”

Subsec. (e)(3)(C)(ii). Pub. L. 100-366, §3(a)(1), substituted “28, provided that” for “28, if” and “shall be exclusive of” for “is exclusive of”.

Subsec. (e)(4) to (8). Pub. L. 100-238, §133(a)(4), (5), added pars. (4) to (6) and redesignated former pars. (4) and (5) as (7) and (8), respectively.

Subsec. (e)(5). Pub. L. 100-366, §3(a)(2), substituted “paragraph (3)” for “paragraphs (3) and (4)”.

1986—Subsec. (c)(3)(E). Pub. L. 99-556, §112, added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (e)(1)(B). Pub. L. 99-514 substituted “Internal Revenue Code of 1986” for “Internal Revenue Code of 1954”.

Subsec. (e)(1)(E)(i). Pub. L. 99-556, §114(b), substituted “Secretary of Labor (or the Board under section 114 of the Federal Employees’ Retirement System Technical Corrections Act of 1986)” for “Board”.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENTS

Pub. L. 100-366, §3(b), July 13, 1988, 102 Stat. 826, provided that: “Section 8477(e) of title 5, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), shall apply to any civil action or proceeding arising from any act or omission occurring on or after October 1, 1986.”

Pub. L. 100-238, title I, §133(b), Jan. 8, 1988, 101 Stat. 1762, provided that: “The provisions of section 8477(e)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) of title 5, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a) of this section), shall apply to any civil action or proceeding arising from any act or omission occurring on or after October 1, 1986.”

Pub. L. 100-238, title I, §133(c), Jan. 8, 1988, 101 Stat. 1762, which provided that the provisions of subsection (a) (and the amendments to section 8477(e) of title 5 contained therein) and subsection (b) of this section were to be repealed effective on Dec. 31, 1990, and that on and after Dec. 31, 1990, the provisions of section

8477(e) of title 5 were to be in effect as such provisions were in effect on Jan. 7, 1988, was repealed by Pub. L. 101-335, §8, July 17, 1990, 104 Stat. 325.

##### INTERIM EXEMPTION PROCEDURES

Pub. L. 99-556, title I, §111, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3133, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), until such time as final regulations under subparagraph (A) of section 8477(c)(3) of title 5, United States Code, become effective, the Secretary of Labor may, in accordance with procedures under section 408(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 [29 U.S.C. 1108(a)], grant any exemption allowable under such section 8477(c)(3).

“(b) TERMINATION OF INTERIM AUTHORITY.—The authority to grant an exemption under section 8477(c)(3) of title 5, United States Code, using the procedures under section 408(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 shall expire not later than December 31, 1988.”

##### ALLOCATION OF FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Pub. L. 99-556, title I, §114(a), Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3133, provided that:

“(1) Subject to paragraph (2), until such time as final regulations under subparagraph (E) of section 8477(e)(1) of title 5, United States Code, become effective, a fiduciary (as defined by section 8477(a)(3) of title 5, United States Code) may, in accordance with procedures established by the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, make any allocation of fiduciary responsibilities.

“(2) The authority to make any allocation under section 8477(e)(1)(E) using the procedures referred to in paragraph (1), and any allocation so made using such procedures, shall expire not later than December 31, 1988.”

#### § 8478. Bonding

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), each fiduciary and each person who handles funds or property of the Thrift Savings Fund shall be bonded as provided in this section.

(2)(A) Bond shall not be required of a fiduciary (or of any officer or employee of such fiduciary) if such fiduciary—

(i) is a corporation organized and doing business under the laws of the United States or of any State;

(ii) is authorized under such laws to exercise trust powers or to conduct an insurance business;

(iii) is subject to supervision or examination by Federal or State authority; and

(iv) has at all times a combined capital and surplus in excess of such minimum amount (not less than \$1,000,000) as the Secretary of Labor prescribes in regulations.

(B) If—

(i) a bank or other financial institution would, but for this subparagraph, not be required to be bonded under this section by reason of the application of the exception provided in subparagraph (A),

(ii) the bank or financial institution is authorized to exercise trust powers, and

(iii) the deposits of the bank or financial institution are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,

such exception shall apply to such bank or financial institution only if the bank or institution meets bonding requirements under State law which the Secretary of Labor determines

are at least equivalent to those imposed on banks by Federal law.

(b)(1) The Secretary of Labor shall prescribe the amount of a bond under this section at the beginning of each fiscal year. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, such amount shall not be less than 10 percent of the amount of funds handled. In no case shall such bond be less than \$1,000 nor more than \$500,000, except that the Secretary of Labor, after due notice and opportunity for hearing to all interested parties, and other consideration of the record, may prescribe an amount in excess of \$500,000.

(2) For the purpose of prescribing the amount of a bond under paragraph (1), the amount of funds handled shall be determined by reference to the amount of the funds handled by the person, group, or class to be covered by such bond or by their predecessor or predecessors, if any, during the preceding fiscal year, or to the amount of funds to be handled during the current fiscal year by such person, group, or class, estimated as provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor.

(c) A bond required by subsection (a)—

(1) shall include such terms and conditions as the Secretary of Labor considers necessary to protect the Thrift Savings Fund against loss by reason of acts of fraud or dishonesty on the part of the bonded person directly or through connivance with others;

(2) shall have as surety thereon a corporate surety company which is an acceptable surety on Federal bonds under authority granted by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to sections 9304 through 9308 of title 31; and

(3) shall be in a form or of a type approved by the Secretary of Labor, including individual bonds or schedule or blanket forms of bonds which cover a group or class.

(d)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to whom subsection (a) applies, to receive, handle, disburse, or otherwise exercise custody or control of any of the funds or other property of the Thrift Savings Fund without being bonded as required by this section.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any fiduciary, or any other person having authority to direct the performance of functions described in paragraph (1), to permit any such function to be performed by any person to whom subsection (a) applies unless such person has met the requirements of such subsection.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person who is required to be bonded as provided in subsection (a) shall be exempt from any other provision of law which would, but for this subsection, require such person to be bonded for the handling of the funds or other property of the Thrift Savings Fund.

(f) The Secretary of Labor shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, including exempting a person or class of persons from the requirements of this section.

(Added Pub. L. 99-335, title I, §101(a), June 6, 1986, 100 Stat. 586; amended Pub. L. 99-556, title I, §§108, 115, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3132, 3134; Pub. L. 102-378, §2(72), Oct. 2, 1992, 106 Stat. 1355.)

## Editorial Notes

### AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (a)(2)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 102-378 struck out “Corporation or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance” before “Corporation”.

1986—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 99-556, §108, struck out “(other than a member of the Employee Thrift Advisory Council with respect to his duties as a member)” after “each fiduciary”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 99-556, §115, substituted “sections 9304 through 9308 of title 31” for “sections 6 through 13 of title 6”.

## Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

### INTERIM BONDING REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 99-556, title I, §113, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3133, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), until such time as the Secretary of Labor promulgates final regulations under section 8478 of title 5, United States Code, the Secretary of Labor may, with respect to the Thrift Savings Fund, apply the temporary regulations under section 412 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 [29 U.S.C. 1112] that are set forth in section 2550.412-1, and subchapter I of chapter XXV, of title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on September 23, 1986.

“(b) TERMINATION OF INTERIM AUTHORITY.—The authority to apply the temporary regulations referred to in subsection (a) with respect to the Thrift Savings Fund shall expire not later than December 31, 1989.”

## § 8478a. Investigative authority

Any authority available to the Secretary of Labor under section 504 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 is hereby made available to the Secretary of Labor, and any officer designated by the Secretary of Labor, to determine whether any person has violated, or is about to violate, any provision of section 8477 or 8478.

(Added Pub. L. 99-556, title I, §110(a), Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3132.)

## Editorial Notes

### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 504 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, referred to in text, is classified to section 1134 of Title 29, Labor.

## § 8479. Exculpatory provisions; insurance

(a) Any provision in an agreement or instrument which purports to relieve a fiduciary from responsibility or liability for any responsibility, obligation, or duty under this subchapter shall be void.

(b)(1) The Executive Director may require employing agencies to contribute an amount not to exceed 1 percent of the amount such agencies are required to contribute in accordance with section 8432(c) of this title to the Thrift Savings Fund.

(2) The sums credited to the Thrift Savings Fund under paragraph (1) shall be available and may be used at the discretion of the Executive Director to purchase insurance to cover potential liability of persons who serve in a fiduciary capacity with respect to the Thrift Savings Fund, without regard to whether a policy of insurance permits recourse by the insurer against