

the United States if that employee is declared eligible for such employment by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

(e) **LIMITATION ON DELEGATION.**—The authority of the Secretary of Defense under this section may be delegated only to the Deputy Secretary of Defense, the head of an intelligence component of the Department of Defense (with respect to employees of that component), or the Secretary of a military department (with respect to employees of that department). An action to terminate employment of such an employee by any such official may be appealed to the Secretary of Defense.

(Added Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XVI, § 1632(b), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2748.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in sections 1590(e) and 1604(e) of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-201, §§ 1632(a)(3), 1633(a).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1635 of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as an Effective Date of 1996 Amendment note under section 1593 of this title.

§ 1610. Reductions and other adjustments in force

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations for the separation of employees in defense intelligence positions, including members of the Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service and employees in Intelligence Senior Level positions, during a reduction in force or other adjustment in force. The regulations shall apply to such a reduction in force or other adjustment in force notwithstanding sections 3501(b) and 3502 of title 5.

(b) **MATTERS TO BE GIVEN EFFECT.**—The regulations shall give effect to the following:

- (1) Tenure of employment.
- (2) Military preference, subject to sections 3501(a)(3) and 3502(b) of title 5.
- (3) The veteran's preference under section 3502(b) of title 5.
- (4) Performance.
- (5) Length of service computed in accordance with the second sentence of section 3502(a) of title 5.

(c) **REGULATIONS RELATING TO DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE SES.**—The regulations relating to removal from the Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service in a reduction in force or other adjustment in force shall be consistent with section 3595(a) of title 5.

(d) **RIGHT OF APPEAL.**—(1) The regulations shall provide a right of appeal regarding a personnel action under the regulations. The appeal shall be determined within the Department of Defense. An appeal determined at the highest level provided in the regulations shall be final and not subject to review outside the Department of Defense. A personnel action covered by the regulations is not subject to any other provision of law that provides appellate rights or procedures.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a preference eligible referred to in section 7511(a)(1)(B) of title 5 may elect to have an appeal of a personnel action taken against the preference eligible under the regulation determined by the Merit Systems Protection Board instead of having the appeal determined within the Department of Defense. Section 7701 of title 5 shall apply to any such appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

(e) **CONSULTATION WITH OPM.**—Regulations under this section shall be prescribed in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

(Added Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XVI, § 1632(b), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2749.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1635 of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as an Effective Date of 1996 Amendment note under section 1593 of this title.

§ 1611. Postemployment assistance: certain terminated intelligence employees

(a) **AUTHORITY.**—Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary of Defense may, in the case of any individual who is a qualified former intelligence employee, use appropriated funds—

- (1) to assist that individual in finding and qualifying for employment other than in a defense intelligence position;
- (2) to assist that individual in meeting the expenses of treatment of medical or psychological disabilities of that individual; and
- (3) to provide financial support to that individual during periods of unemployment.

(b) **QUALIFIED FORMER INTELLIGENCE EMPLOYEES.**—For purposes of this section, a qualified former intelligence employee is an individual who was employed as a civilian employee of the Department of Defense in a sensitive defense intelligence position—

- (1) who has been found to be ineligible for continued access to information designated as “Sensitive Compartmented Information” and employment in a defense intelligence position; or
- (2) whose employment in a defense intelligence position has been terminated.

(c) **CONDITIONS.**—Assistance may be provided to a qualified former intelligence employee under subsection (a) only if the Secretary determines that such assistance is essential to—

- (1) maintain the judgment and emotional stability of the qualified former intelligence employee; and
- (2) avoid circumstances that might lead to the unlawful disclosure of classified information to which the qualified former intelligence employee had access.

(d) **DURATION OF ASSISTANCE.**—Assistance may not be provided under this section in the case of any individual after the end of the five-year period beginning on the date of the termination of the employment of the individual in a defense intelligence position.

(Added Pub. L. 103-359, title VIII, § 806(a)(1), Oct. 14, 1994, 108 Stat. 3441, § 1599; amended Pub. L.