

amended Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XI, § 1112(b), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2682; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title IX, § 921(d)(2)(A), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1568; Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title IX, § 923(a), (b)(1), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1539; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVI, § 1621(c)(1), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4053.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283 substituted “geomatics” for “geodetic” in section catchline and in two places in text.

2011—Pub. L. 112-81, § 923(b)(1), amended section catchline generally, substituting “Exchange of mapping, charting, and geodetic data with foreign countries, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and academic institutions” for “Exchange of mapping, charting, and geodetic data with foreign countries and international organizations”.

Pub. L. 112-81, § 923(a), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).
2003—Pub. L. 108-136 substituted “National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency” for “National Imagery and Mapping Agency”.

1996—Pub. L. 104-201 renumbered section 2795 of this title as this section and substituted “National Imagery and Mapping Agency” for “Defense Mapping Agency”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-201 effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1124 of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as a note under section 193 of this title.

§ 455. Maps, charts, and geomatics data: public availability; exceptions

(a) The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency shall offer for sale maps and charts at scales of 1:500,000 and smaller, except those withheld in accordance with subsection (b) or those specifically authorized under criteria established by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order.

(b)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Defense may withhold from public disclosure any geomatics product in the possession of, or under the control of, the Department of Defense—

(A) that was obtained or produced, or that contains information that was provided, pursuant to an international agreement that restricts disclosure of such product or information to government officials of the agreeing parties or that restricts use of such product or information to government purposes only;

(B) that contains information that the Secretary of Defense has determined in writing would, if disclosed, reveal sources and methods, or capabilities, used to obtain source material for production of the geomatics product; or

(C) that contains information that the Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency has determined in writing would, if disclosed, jeopardize or interfere with ongoing military or intelligence operations, reveal military operational or contingency plans, or reveal, jeopardize, or compromise military or intelligence capabilities.

(2) In this subsection, the term “geomatics product” means imagery, imagery intelligence, or geospatial information.

(c)(1) Regulations to implement this section (including any amendments to such regulations) shall be published in the Federal Register for public comment for a period of not less than 30 days before they take effect.

(2) Regulations under this section shall address the conditions under which release of geomatics products authorized under subsection (b) to be withheld from public disclosure would be appropriate—

(A) in the case of allies of the United States; and

(B) in the case of qualified United States contractors (including contractors that are small business concerns) who need such products for use in the performance of contracts with the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 102-88, title V, § 502(a)(1), Aug. 14, 1991, 105 Stat. 435, § 2796; amended Pub. L. 103-359, title V, § 502, Oct. 14, 1994, 108 Stat. 3430; renumbered § 455 and amended Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XI, § 1112(b), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2682; Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title IX, § 933(a), (b)(1), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1866; Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [[div. A], title X, § 1074], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-280; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title IX, § 921(d)(2)(A), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1568; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVI, § 1621(d)(1), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4053.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283 substituted “geomatics” for “geodetic” in section catchline and wherever appearing in text.

2003—Subsecs. (a), (b)(1)(C). Pub. L. 108-136 substituted “National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency” for “National Imagery and Mapping Agency”.

2000—Subsec. (b)(1)(C). Pub. L. 106-398 substituted “, reveal military operational or contingency plans, or reveal, jeopardize, or compromise military or intelligence capabilities” for “or reveal military operational or contingency plans”.

1997—Subsec. (b)(1)(B). Pub. L. 105-85, § 933(a), inserted “, or capabilities,” after “methods”.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 105-85, § 933(b)(1), amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “In this subsection, the term ‘geodetic product’ means any map, chart, geodetic data, or related product.”

1996—Pub. L. 104-201 renumbered section 2796 of this title as this section and substituted “National Imagery and Mapping Agency” for “Defense Mapping Agency” in subsecs. (a) and (b)(1)(C).

1994—Subsec. (b)(1)(C). Pub. L. 103-359 inserted “jeopardize or interfere with ongoing military or intelligence operations or” after “disclosed,”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-201 effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1124 of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as a note under section 193 of this title.

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 102-88, title V, § 502(b), Aug. 14, 1991, 105 Stat. 436, directed that regulations to implement section 2796 (now 455) of this title be published in the Federal Register for public comment in accordance with subsec. (c)

of that section not later than 90 days after Aug. 14, 1991.

§ 456. Civil actions barred

No civil action may be brought against the United States on the basis of the content of geospatial information prepared or disseminated by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

(Added Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title X, §1074(b), Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2861, §2798; renumbered §456 and amended Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XI, §1112(b), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2682; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title IX, §921(d)(2)(A), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1568; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVI, §1621(e), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4053.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283 added text of section and struck out former text which read as follows:

“(a) CLAIMS BARRED.—No civil action may be brought against the United States on the basis of the content of a navigational aid prepared or disseminated by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

“(b) NAVIGATIONAL AIDS COVERED.—Subsection (a) applies with respect to a navigational aid in the form of a map, a chart, or a publication and any other form or medium of product or information in which the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency prepares or disseminates navigational aids.”

2003—Pub. L. 108-136 substituted “National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency” for “National Imagery and Mapping Agency” wherever appearing.

1996—Pub. L. 104-201 renumbered section 2798 of this title as this section and substituted “National Imagery and Mapping Agency” for “Defense Mapping Agency” wherever appearing.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-201 effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1124 of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as a note under section 193 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title X, §1074(d), Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2861, provided that: “Section 2798 [now 456] of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (b), shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 5, 1994] and shall apply with respect to (1) civil actions brought before such date that are pending adjudication on such date, and (2) civil actions brought on or after such date.”

§ 457. Operational files previously maintained by or concerning activities of National Photographic Interpretation Center: authority to withhold from public disclosure

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Defense may withhold from public disclosure operational files described in subsection (b) to the same extent that operational files may be withheld under section 701 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3141).

(b) COVERED OPERATIONAL FILES.—The authority under subsection (a) applies to operational files in the possession of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency that—

(1) as of September 22, 1996, were maintained by the National Photographic Interpretation Center; or

(2) concern the activities of the Agency that, as of such date, were performed by the National Photographic Interpretation Center.

(c) OPERATIONAL FILES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “operational files” has the meaning given that term in section 701(b) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3141(b)).

(Added Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title X, §1045(a), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 762; amended Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title IX, §921(d)(2)(A), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1568; Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title X, §1071(c)(8), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3509.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (a), Pub. L. 113-291, §1071(c)(8)(A), substituted “(50 U.S.C. 3141)” for “(50 U.S.C. 431)”.

Subsec. (c), Pub. L. 113-291, §1071(c)(8)(B), substituted “(50 U.S.C. 3141(b))” for “(50 U.S.C. 431(b))”.

2003—Subsec. (b), Pub. L. 108-136 substituted “National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency” for “National Imagery and Mapping Agency” in introductory provisions.

SUBCHAPTER III—PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Sec.

461. Management rights.
462. Financial assistance to certain employees in acquisition of critical skills.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-108, title V, §504(b), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1406, added item 462.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

PILOT PROGRAM ON ESTABLISHING A GEOSPATIAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Pub. L. 118-159, div. F, title LXVI, §6618, Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2509, provided that:

“(a) PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out a pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of establishing a program to develop a skilled workforce in geospatial technologies, methodologies, and capabilities to support the defense intelligence requirements of the Department of Defense.

“(2) DESIGNATION.—The pilot program carried out pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be known as the ‘Geospatial Workforce Pilot Program’ (in this section referred to as the ‘Pilot Program’).

“(b) GOALS.—In carrying out the Pilot Program, the Secretary shall seek—

“(1) to assess the demand for geospatial technology skills in both military and civilian sectors in proximity to facilities of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in the United States;

“(2) to expand, align, and accelerate the education, training, and certification of a geospatial workforce;

“(3) to support a global research hub for geospatial science and technology;

“(4) to foster partnerships with secondary and post-secondary educational institutions, industry leaders, and local governments to support the workforce development;

“(5) to increase employment opportunities and economic growth in regions that are in proximity to National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency locations in the United States through enhanced geospatial capabilities; and