

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1975—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 94-200 changed the time for submission of interim and final reports from one year of the Commission's findings and recommendations and two years after Oct. 28, 1974, to one year and two years respectively after the confirmation by the Senate of the Chairperson or the appointment by the President of an acting Chairperson.

§ 2404. Powers of Commission**(a) Hearings; administration of oaths**

The Commission may for the purpose of carrying out this chapter hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission may deem advisable. The Commission may administer oaths of¹ affirmations to witnesses appearing before it.

(b) Implementation authority of members or agents of Commission

When so authorized by the Commission, any member or agent of the Commission may take any action which the Commission is authorized to take by this section.

(c) Request for information from other Federal departments or agencies

The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States information necessary to enable it to carry out this chapter. Upon request of the Chairperson of the Commission, the head of such department or agency shall furnish such information to the Commission.

(d) Issuance of subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and production of evidence; refusal to obey; contempt proceedings; manner of service of subpoenas; service of process

(1) The Commission shall have power to issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of any evidence that relates to any matter under investigation by the Commission. Such attendance of witnesses and the production of such evidence may be required from any place within the United States at any designated place of hearing within the United States.

(2) If a person issued a subpoena under paragraph (1) refuses to obey such subpoena or is guilty of contumacy, any court of the United States within the judicial district within which the hearing is conducted or within the judicial district within which such person is found or resides or transacts business may (upon application by the Commission) order such person to appear before the Commission to produce evidence or to give testimony touching the matter under investigation. Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(3) The subpoenas of the Commission shall be served in the manner provided for subpoenas issued by a United States district court under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for the United States district courts.

(4) All process of any court to which application may be made under this section may be

¹ So in original. Probably should be "or".

served in the judicial district wherein the person required to be served resides or may be found.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title II, § 204, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1509.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c), was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 93-495, which enacted this chapter (§ 2401 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

§ 2405. Executive Director and additional staff personnel; appointment and compensation; experts and consultants; employment and compensation; audits by Comptroller General**(a) The Commission—**

(1) may appoint with the advice and consent of the Senate and fix the compensation of an Executive Director, and such additional staff personnel as he deems necessary, without regard to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, but at rates not in excess of the maximum rate for GS-18 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of such title; and

(2) may procure temporary and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized by section 3109 of title 5, but at rates not to exceed \$150 a day for individuals.

(b) The Comptroller General is authorized to make detailed audits of the books and records of the Commission, and shall report the results of any such audit to the Commission and to the Congress.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title II, § 205, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1510.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS TO GS-16, 17, OR 18 PAY RATES

References in laws to the rates of pay for GS-16, 17, or 18, or to maximum rates of pay under the General Schedule, to be considered references to rates payable under specified sections of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, see section 529 [title I, § 101(c)(1)] of Pub. L. 101-509, set out in a note under section 5376 of Title 5.

§ 2406. Compensation of members of Commission

(a) A member of the Commission who is an officer or employee of the United States shall serve as a member of the Commission without additional compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties as a member of the Commission.

(b) A member of the Commission who is not otherwise an officer or employee of the United States shall be compensated at a rate of \$150 per day when engaged in the performance of his duties as a member of the Commission, and shall also be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and

other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties as a member of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title II, §206, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1510.)

§ 2407. Cooperation and assistance of other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities

(a) Each department, agency, and instrumentality of the executive branch of the Government, including independent agencies, is authorized and directed to furnish to the Commission, upon request, such data, reports, and other information as the Commission deems necessary to carry out its functions under this chapter.

(b) The head of any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States may detail such personnel and may furnish such services, with or without reimbursement, as the Commission may request to assist it in carrying out its functions.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title II, §207, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1510.)

§ 2408. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated without fiscal year limitations such sums, not to exceed \$2,000,000, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title II, §208, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1511.)

CHAPTER 26—DISPOSITION OF ABANDONED MONEY ORDERS AND TRAVELER'S CHECKS

Sec.	
2501.	Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.
2502.	Definitions.
2503.	State entitlement to escheat or custody.

§ 2501. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose

The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) the books and records of banking and financial organizations and business associations engaged in issuing and selling money orders and traveler's checks do not, as a matter of business practice, show the last known addresses of purchasers of such instruments;

(2) a substantial majority of such purchasers reside in the States where such instruments are purchased;

(3) the States wherein the purchasers of money orders and traveler's checks reside should, as a matter of equity among the several States, be entitled to the proceeds of such instruments in the event of abandonment;

(4) it is a burden on interstate commerce that the proceeds of such instruments are not being distributed to the States entitled thereto; and

(5) the cost of maintaining and retrieving addresses of purchasers of money orders and traveler's checks is an additional burden on interstate commerce since it has been determined that most purchasers reside in the State of purchase of such instruments.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title VI, §601, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1525.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

APPLICABILITY TO SUMS PAYABLE ON MONEY ORDERS, ETC., DEEMED ABANDONED ON OR AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 1965; EXCEPTION

Pub. L. 93-495, title VI, §604, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1526, provided that: "This title [enacting this chapter] shall be applicable to sums payable on money orders, traveler's checks, and similar written instruments deemed abandoned on or after February 1, 1965, except to the extent that such sums have been paid over to a State prior to January 1, 1974."

§ 2502. Definitions

As used in this chapter—

(1) "banking organization" means any bank, trust company, savings bank, safe deposit company, or a private banker engaged in business in the United States;

(2) "business association" means any corporation (other than a public corporation), joint stock company, business trust, partnership, or any association for business purposes of two or more individuals; and

(3) "financial organization" means any savings and loan association, building and loan association, credit union, or investment company engaged in business in the United States.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title VI, §602, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1525.)

§ 2503. State entitlement to escheat or custody

Where any sum is payable on a money order, traveler's check, or other similar written instrument (other than a third party bank check) on which a banking or financial organization or a business association is directly liable—

(1) if the books and records of such banking or financial organization or business association show the State in which such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument was purchased, that State shall be entitled exclusively to escheat or take custody of the sum payable on such instrument, to the extent of that State's power under its own laws to escheat or take custody of such sum;

(2) if the books and records of such banking or financial organization or business association do not show the State in which such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument was purchased, the State in which the banking or financial organization or business association has its principal place of business shall be entitled to escheat or take custody of the sum payable on such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument, to the extent of that State's power under its own laws to escheat or take custody of such sum, until another State shall demonstrate by written evidence that it is the State of purchase; or

(3) if the books and records of such banking or financial organizations or business association show the State in which such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument was purchased and the laws of the State of purchase do not provide for the escheat or custodial taking of the sum payable on such instrument, the State in which the banking or financial organization or business association has its principal place of business