

when the Government determines that it has or may have a need to practice the invention.

**(b) “Special Government employees” defined**

For purposes of this section, Federal employees include “special Government employees” as defined in section 202 of title 18.

**(c) Relationship to other laws**

Nothing in this section is intended to limit or diminish existing authorities of any agency.

(Pub. L. 96-480, §15, as added and renumbered §14, Pub. L. 99-502, §§8, 9(e)(1), Oct. 20, 1986, 100 Stat. 1794, 1797; renumbered §15, Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5122(a)(1), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1438; amended Pub. L. 104-113, §6, Mar. 7, 1996, 110 Stat. 779.)

**Editorial Notes**

**AMENDMENTS**

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-113 substituted “ownership of or the right of ownership to an invention made by a Federal employee” for “the right of ownership to an invention under this chapter” and inserted “obtain or” before “retain title to the invention”.

**§ 3711. National Technology and Innovation Medal**

**(a) Establishment**

There is hereby established a National Technology and Innovation Medal, which shall be of such design and materials and bear such inscriptions as the President, on the basis of recommendations submitted by the Office of Science and Technology Policy, may prescribe.

**(b) Award**

The President shall periodically award the medal, on the basis of recommendations received from the Secretary or on the basis of such other information and evidence as he deems appropriate, to individuals or companies, which in his judgment are deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contributions to the promotion of technology or technological manpower for the improvement of the economic, environmental, or social well-being of the United States.

**(c) Presentation**

The presentation of the award shall be made by the President with such ceremonies as he may deem proper.

(Pub. L. 96-480, §16, formerly §12, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2319; renumbered §16, Pub. L. 99-502, §2, Oct. 20, 1986, 100 Stat. 1785; renumbered §15, Pub. L. 99-502, §9(e)(1), Oct. 20, 1986, 100 Stat. 1797; renumbered §16, Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5122(a)(1), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1438; Pub. L. 110-69, title I, §1003, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 576.)

**Editorial Notes**

**AMENDMENTS**

2007—Pub. L. 110-69, §1003(1), which directed substitution of “National Technology and Innovation Medal” for “National Medal” in section catchline, was executed by making the substitution for “National Technology Medal” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-69, §1003(2), substituted “Technology and Innovation Medal” for “Technology Medal”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY MEDAL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY**

Pub. L. 105-309, §10, Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2939, provided that: “In the administration of section 16 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3711), Environmental Technology shall be established as a separate nomination category with appropriate unique criteria for that category.”

**§ 3711a. Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award**

**(a) Establishment**

There is hereby established the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, which shall be evidenced by a medal bearing the inscriptions “Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award” and “The Quest for Excellence”. The medal shall be of such design and materials and bear such additional inscriptions as the Secretary may prescribe.

**(b) Making and presentation of award**

(1) The President (on the basis of recommendations received from the Secretary), or the Secretary, shall periodically make the award to companies and other organizations which in the judgment of the President or the Secretary have substantially benefited the economic or social well-being of the United States through improvements in the quality of their goods or services resulting from the effective practice of quality management, and which as a consequence are deserving of special recognition.

(2) The presentation of the award shall be made by the President or the Secretary with such ceremonies as the President or the Secretary may deem proper.

(3) An organization to which an award is made under this section, and which agrees to help other American organizations improve their quality management, may publicize its receipt of such award and use the award in its advertising, but it shall be ineligible to receive another such award in the same category for a period of 5 years.

**(c) Categories in which award may be given**

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), separate awards shall be made to qualifying organizations in each of the following categories—

- (A) Small businesses.
- (B) Companies or their subsidiaries.
- (C) Companies which primarily provide services.
- (D) Health care providers.
- (E) Education providers.
- (F) Nonprofit organizations.
- (G) Community.

(2) The Secretary may at any time expand, subdivide, or otherwise modify the list of categories within which awards may be made as initially in effect under paragraph (1), and may establish separate awards for other organizations including units of government, upon a determination that the objectives of this section would be better served thereby; except that any such expansion, subdivision, modification, or establishment shall not be effective unless and until the Secretary has submitted a detailed de-