

(3) the petition for review shall be filed not later than 90 days after the entry in the Office of a final decision under section 1406(e) of this title; and

(4) the Office shall be an “agency” as that term is used in chapter 158 of title 28.

**(d) Standard of review**

To the extent necessary for decision in a proceeding commenced under subsection (a)(1) and when presented, the court shall decide all relevant questions of law and interpret constitutional and statutory provisions. The court shall set aside a final decision of the Board if it is determined that the decision was—

(1) arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not consistent with law;

(2) not made consistent with required procedures; or

(3) unsupported by substantial evidence.

**(e) Record**

In making determinations under subsection (d), the court shall review the whole record, or those parts of it cited by a party, and due account shall be taken of the rule of prejudicial error.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, §407, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 35.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Parts A, B, C, and D of subchapter II, referred to in subsec. (a), were in the original references to parts A (§§201-207), B (§210), C (§215), and D (§220), respectively, of title II of Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 7, 13, 16, 19, which are classified principally to parts A, B, C, and D, respectively, of subchapter II of this chapter. For complete classification of parts A, B, C, and D to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 1408. Civil action**

**(a) Jurisdiction**

The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction over any civil action commenced under section 1401 of this title and this section by a covered employee.

**(b) Parties**

The defendant shall be the employing office alleged to have committed the violation, or in which the violation is alleged to have occurred.

**(c) Jury trial**

Any party may demand a jury trial where a jury trial would be available in an action against a private defendant under the relevant law made applicable by this chapter. In any case in which a violation of section 1311 of this title is alleged, the court shall not inform the jury of the maximum amount of compensatory damages available under section 1311(b)(1) or 1311(b)(3) of this title.

**(d) Appearances by House Employment Counsel**

**(1) In general**

The House Employment Counsel of the House of Representatives and any other counsel in the Office of House Employment Counsel of the House of Representatives, including any counsel specially retained by the Office of

House Employment Counsel, shall be entitled, for the purpose of providing legal assistance and representation to employing offices of the House of Representatives under this chapter, to enter an appearance in any proceeding before any court of the United States or of any State or political subdivision thereof without compliance with any requirements for admission to practice before such court, except that the authorization conferred by this paragraph shall not apply with respect to the admission of any such person to practice before the United States Supreme Court.

**(2) House Employment Counsel defined**

In this subsection, the term “Office of House Employment Counsel of the House of Representatives” means—

(A) the Office of House Employment Counsel established and operating under the authority of the Clerk of the House of Representatives as of November 12, 2001;

(B) any successor office to the Office of House Employment Counsel which is established after November 12, 2001; and

(C) any other person authorized and directed in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives to provide legal assistance and representation to employing offices of the House of Representatives in connection with actions brought under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, §408, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 37; Pub. L. 107-68, title I, §119(a), Nov. 12, 2001, 115 Stat. 573; Pub. L. 115-397, title I, §101(b), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5300.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (c) and (d)(1), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115-397 substituted “section 1401 of this title” for “section 1404 of this title” and struck out “who has completed counseling under section 1402 of this title and mediation under section 1403 of this title. A civil action may be commenced by a covered employee only to seek redress for a violation for which the employee has completed counseling and mediation” after “covered employee”.

2001—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 107-68 added subsec. (d).

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-397 effective upon expiration of the 180-day period beginning on Dec. 21, 2018, with provisions for effect on pending proceedings, see section 401 of Pub. L. 115-397, set out as a note under section 1301 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2001 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107-68, title I, §119(b), Nov. 12, 2001, 115 Stat. 574, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending this section] shall apply with respect to proceedings occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 12, 2001].”

**§ 1409. Judicial review of regulations**

In any proceeding brought under section 1407 or 1408 of this title in which the application of a regulation issued under this chapter is at issue, the court may review the validity of the regulation in accordance with the provisions of subparagraphs (A) through (D) of section 706(2) of title 5, except that with respect to regulations approved by a joint resolution under section 1384(c) of this title, only the provisions of section 706(2)(B) of title 5 shall apply. If the court determines that the regulation is invalid, the court shall apply, to the extent necessary and appropriate, the most relevant substantive executive agency regulation promulgated to implement the statutory provisions with respect to which the invalid regulation was issued. Except as provided in this section, the validity of regulations issued under this chapter is not subject to judicial review.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, § 409, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 37.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

**§ 1410. Other judicial review prohibited**

Except as expressly authorized by sections 1407, 1408, and 1409 of this title, the compliance or noncompliance with the provisions of this chapter and any action taken pursuant to this chapter shall not be subject to judicial review.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, § 410, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 37.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

**§ 1411. Effect of failure to issue regulations**

In any proceeding under section 1405, 1406, 1407, or 1408 of this title, except a proceeding to enforce section 1351 of this title with respect to offices listed under section 1351(e)(2) of this title, if the Board has not issued a regulation on a matter for which this chapter requires a regulation to be issued, the hearing officer, Board, or court, as the case may be, shall apply, to the extent necessary and appropriate, the most relevant substantive executive agency regulation promulgated to implement the statutory provision at issue in the proceeding.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, § 411, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 37.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

**§ 1412. Expedited review of certain appeals****(a) In general**

An appeal may be taken directly to the Supreme Court of the United States from any interlocutory or final judgment, decree, or order of a court upon the constitutionality of any provision of this chapter.

**(b) Jurisdiction**

The Supreme Court shall, if it has not previously ruled on the question, accept jurisdiction over the appeal referred to in subsection (a), advance the appeal on the docket, and expedite the appeal to the greatest extent possible.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, § 412, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 38.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

**§ 1413. Privileges and immunities**

The authorization to bring judicial proceedings under sections 1405(f)(3), 1407, and 1408 of this title shall not constitute a waiver of sovereign immunity for any other purpose, or of the privileges of any Senator or Member of the House of Representatives under article I, section 6, clause 1, of the Constitution, or a waiver of any power of either the Senate or the House of Representatives under the Constitution, including under article I, section 5, clause 3, or under the rules of either House relating to records and information within its jurisdiction.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, § 413, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 38.)

**§ 1414. Settlement**

Any settlement entered into by the parties to a process described in section 1331, 1341, 1351, or 1401 of this title shall be in writing and not become effective unless it is approved by the Executive Director. Nothing in this chapter shall affect the power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, to establish rules governing the process by which a settlement may be entered into by such House or by any employing office of such House.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title IV, § 414, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 38; Pub. L. 115-397, title I, § 103(f), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5305.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104-1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109