

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Section 301 of Title 3 of the United States Code, and as President of the United States, it is ordered as follows:

SECTION 1. *Delegation of authority.* The Secretary of State is hereby designated and empowered to exercise, without the approval, ratification, or other action of the President, the authority conferred upon the President by the first section of the Act of July 3, 1926 (22 U.S.C. 211a), to designate and prescribe for and on behalf of the United States rules governing the granting, issuing, and verifying of passports.

SEC. 2. *Superseded orders.* Subject to Section 3 of this order, the following are hereby superseded:

(1) Executive Order No. 7856 of March 31, 1938, entitled “Rules Governing the Granting and Issuing of Passports in the United States.”

(2) Executive Order No. 8820 of July 11, 1941, entitled “Amending the Foreign Service Regulations of the United States.”

SEC. 3. *Saving provisions.* All rules and regulations contained in the Executive order provisions revoked by Section 2 of this order, and all rules and regulations issued under the authority of those provisions, which are in force at the time of the issuance of this order shall remain in full force and effect until revoked, or except as they may be hereafter amended or modified, in pursuance of the authority conferred by this order, unless sooner terminated by operation of law.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON.

§ 212. Persons entitled to passport

No passport shall be granted or issued to or verified for any other persons than those owing allegiance, whether citizens or not, to the United States.

(R.S. § 4076; June 14, 1902, ch. 1088, § 2, 32 Stat. 386.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 4076 derived from act May 30, 1866, ch. 102, 14 Stat. 54.

AMENDMENTS

1902—Act June 14, 1902, substituted “those owing allegiance, whether citizens or not, to the United States” for “citizens of the United States”.

§ 212a. Restriction of passports for sex tourism

(a) In general

Following any conviction of an individual for a violation of section 2423 of title 18, the Attorney General shall notify in a timely manner—

(1) the Secretary of State for appropriate action under subsection (b); and

(2) the Secretary of Homeland Security for appropriate action under the Immigration and Nationality Act [8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.].

(b) Authority to restrict passport

(1) Ineligibility for passport

(A) In general

The Secretary of State shall not issue a passport or passport card to an individual who is convicted of a violation of section 2423 of title 18 during the covered period if the individual used a passport or passport card or otherwise crossed an international border in committing the offense.

(B) Passport revocation

The Secretary of State shall revoke a passport or passport card previously issued to an individual described in subparagraph (A).

(2) Exceptions

(A) Emergency and humanitarian situations

Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may issue a passport or passport card, in emergency circumstances or for humanitarian reasons, to an individual described in paragraph (1)(A).

(B) Limitation for return to United States

Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may, prior to revocation, limit a previously issued passport or passport card only for return travel to the United States, or may issue a limited passport or passport card that only permits return travel to the United States.

(3) Definitions

In this subsection—

(A) the term “covered period” means the period beginning on the date on which an individual is convicted of a violation of section 2423 of title 18 and ending on the later of—

(i) the date on which the individual is released from a sentence of imprisonment relating to the offense; and

(ii) the end of a period of parole or other supervised release of the covered individual relating to the offense; and

(B) the term “imprisonment” means being confined in or otherwise restricted to a jail, prison, half-way house, treatment facility, or another institution, on a full or part-time basis, pursuant to the sentence imposed as the result of a criminal conviction.

(Pub. L. 110–457, title II, § 236, Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5082.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Immigration and Nationality Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), is act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, which is classified principally to chapter 12 (§1101 et seq.) of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1101 of Title 8 and Tables.

§ 212b. Unique passport identifiers for covered sex offenders

(a) In general

Immediately after receiving a written determination from the Angel Watch Center that an individual is a covered sex offender, through the process developed for that purpose under section 21507 of title 34, the Secretary of State shall take appropriate action under subsection (b).

(b) Authority to use unique passport identifiers

(1) In general

Except as provided under paragraph (2), the Secretary of State shall not issue a passport to a covered sex offender unless the passport contains a unique identifier, and may revoke a passport previously issued without such an identifier of a covered sex offender.

(2) Authority to reissue

Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may reissue a passport that

does not include a unique identifier if an individual described in subsection (a) reapplies for a passport and the Angel Watch Center provides a written determination, through the process developed for that purpose under section 21507 of title 34, to the Secretary of State that the individual is no longer required to register as a covered sex offender.

(3) Clarification with respect to continuing registration

An individual may not be issued or reissued a passport without a unique identifier solely because the individual has moved or otherwise resides outside the United States.

(c) Defined terms

In this section—

(1) the term “covered sex offender” means an individual who—

(A) is a sex offender, as defined in section 21503(f) of title 34; and

(B) is currently required to register under the sex offender registration program of any jurisdiction;

(2) the term “unique identifier” means any visual designation affixed to a conspicuous location on the passport indicating that the individual is a covered sex offender; and

(3) the term “passport” means a passport book or passport card.

(d) Prohibition

The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Attorney General, and their agencies, officers, employees, and agents, shall not be liable to any person for any action taken under this section.

(e) Disclosure

In furtherance of this section, the Secretary of State may require a passport applicant to disclose that they are a registered sex offender.

(f) Effective date

This section shall take effect upon certification by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Attorney General, that the process developed and reported to the appropriate congressional committees under section 21507 of title 34 has been successfully implemented.

(Pub. L. 110-457, title II, §240, as added Pub. L. 114-119, §8, Feb. 8, 2016, 130 Stat. 24; amended Pub. L. 117-347, title III, §323(b), Jan. 5, 2023, 136 Stat. 6207.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2023—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 117-347 added par. (3).

§ 213. Application for passport; verification by oath of initial passport

Before a passport is issued to any person by or under authority of the United States such person shall subscribe to and submit a written application which shall contain a true recital of each and every matter of fact which may be required by law or by any rules authorized by law to be stated as a prerequisite to the issuance of any such passport. If the applicant has not pre-

viously been issued a United States passport, the application shall be duly verified by his oath before a person authorized and empowered by the Secretary of State to administer oaths. Each passport application made available to potential applicants (DS-11) and each passport renewal application made available to current passport holders (DS-82) shall include a form that, if completed, indicates the applicant's consent to the disclosure of information otherwise protected under section 552a of title 5 (commonly known as the “Privacy Act of 1974”) in the event such applicant is determined to be wrongfully detained by a foreign government. Declining to complete such form shall not affect the issuance of a passport to a qualified applicant or diplomatic efforts to secure the release of a United States national from the custody of a foreign government or entity.

(June 15, 1917, ch. 30, title IX, §1, 40 Stat. 227; Pub. L. 90-428, §3, July 26, 1968, 82 Stat. 446; Pub. L. 118-159, div. G, title LXXVII, §7706(b), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2555.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Second sentence of act June 15, 1917, which related to fees for taking application for passport, was omitted as superseded by sections 214 to 217a of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2024—Pub. L. 118-159 inserted at end “Each passport application made available to potential applicants (DS-11) and each passport renewal application made available to current passport holders (DS-82) shall include a form that, if completed, indicates the applicant's consent to the disclosure of information otherwise protected under section 552a of title 5 (commonly known as the ‘Privacy Act of 1974’) in the event such applicant is determined to be wrongfully detained by a foreign government. Declining to complete such form shall not affect the issuance of a passport to a qualified applicant or diplomatic efforts to secure the release of a United States national from the custody of a foreign government or entity.”

1968—Pub. L. 90-428 substituted provisions requiring that the initial passport application be duly verified under oath before a person authorized and empowered by the Secretary of State to administer oaths for provisions requiring that each passport application be duly verified under oath before a person authorized and empowered to administer oaths.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1968 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 90-428 effective on thirtieth day following July 26, 1968, see section 4 of Pub. L. 90-428, set out as a note under section 217a of this title.

IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO HAND-CARRY COURIER SERVICES FOR PASSPORT APPLICATIONS AND PASSPORTS

Pub. L. 118-159, div. G, title LXXV, §7507(b), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2547, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary [of State] shall take such steps as may be necessary to—

“(A) facilitate an increase in the number of companies certified to provide hand-carry courier services;

“(B) increase the daily maximum number of applications for United States passports, by type, that such companies may submit to a passport agency of the Department [of State] (commonly referred to as ‘meeting slots’) as part of the hand-carry courier services of such company; and