

§ 2521. Foreign language proficiency

No person shall be assigned to duty as a volunteer under this chapter in any foreign country or area unless at the time of such assignment he possesses such reasonable proficiency as his assignment requires in speaking the language of the country or area to which he is assigned.

(Pub. L. 87-293, title I, § 24, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 624.)

Editorial Notes**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 87-293, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 612, known as the Peace Corps Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2501 of this title and Tables.

§ 2521a. Nonpartisan appointments

In carrying out this chapter, no political test or political qualification may be used in—

(1) selecting any person for enrollment as a volunteer or for appointment to a position at, or for assignment to (or for employment for assignment to), a duty station located abroad, or

(2) promoting or taking any other action with respect to any volunteer or any person assigned to such a duty station.

(Pub. L. 87-293, title I, § 25, as added Pub. L. 99-83, title XI, § 1105(a)(2), Aug. 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 276.)

Editorial Notes**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 87-293, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 612, known as the Peace Corps Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2501 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 25 of Pub. L. 87-293 was renumbered section 26 and is classified to section 2522 of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section effective Oct. 1, 1985, see section 1301 of Pub. L. 99-83, set out as an Effective Date of 1985 Amendment note under section 2151-1 of this title.

§ 2522. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) The term “abroad” means any area outside the United States.

(2) The term “function” includes any duty, obligation, right, power, authority, responsibility, privilege, discretion, activity, and program.

(3) The term “health care” includes all appropriate examinations, preventive, curative and restorative health and medical care, and supplementary services when necessary.

(4) The term “medical officer” means a physician, nurse practitioner, physician’s assistant, or registered nurse with the professional qualifications, expertise, and abilities consistent with the needs of the Peace Corps and

the post to which he or she is assigned, as determined by the Director of the Peace Corps.

(5) The word “transportation” in sections 2504(b), 2504(m),¹ and 2505(2) of this title includes transportation of not to exceed three hundred pounds per person of unaccompanied necessary personal and household effects.

(6) The term “United States” means the several States and the District of Columbia.

(7) The term “United States Government agency” includes any department, board, wholly or partly owned corporation, or instrumentality, commission, or establishment of the United States Government.

(8) For the purposes of this chapter or any other Act, the period of any individual’s service as a volunteer under this chapter shall include—

(i) except for the purposes of section 2504(f)¹ of this title, any period of training under section 2507(a) of this title prior to enrollment as a volunteer under this chapter; and

(ii) the period between enrollment as a volunteer and the termination of service as such volunteer by the President or by death or resignation.

(Pub. L. 87-293, title I, § 26, formerly § 25, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 624; Pub. L. 89-572, § 4, Sept. 13, 1966, 80 Stat. 765; Pub. L. 91-352, § 8, July 24, 1970, 84 Stat. 465; renumbered § 26, Pub. L. 99-83, title XI, § 1105(a)(1), Aug. 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 276; Pub. L. 115-256, title III, § 306, Oct. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 3659.)

Editorial Notes**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in introductory provisions and par. (8), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 87-293, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 612, known as the Peace Corps Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2501 of this title and Tables.

Section 2504(m) of this title, referred to in par. (5), was redesignated section 2504(n) by Pub. L. 115-256, title I, § 101(a)(1)(B), Oct. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 3651.

Section 2504(f) of this title, referred to in par. (8)(i), was redesignated section 2504(g) by Pub. L. 115-256, title I, § 101(a)(1)(B), Oct. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 3651.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 26 of Pub. L. 87-293 was renumbered section 27 and is classified to section 2523 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-256 inserted introductory provisions, redesignated subsecs. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) as pars. (1), (6), (2), (3), (8), (7), and (5), respectively, so as to appear in numerical order, realigned margins, and added par. (4) defining “medical officer” after par. (3). 1970—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 91-352 inserted reference to section 2504(m) of this title.

1966—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 89-572 struck out territories from definition of “United States”.

§ 2523. Separability

If any provision of this chapter or the application of any provision to any circumstances or persons shall be held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this chapter and the applicability of such provision to other circumstances or persons shall not be affected thereby.

¹ So in original. See References in Text note below.

(Pub. L. 87-293, title I, §27, formerly §26, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 625; renumbered §27, Pub. L. 99-83, title XI, §1105(a)(1), Aug. 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 276.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 87-293, Sept. 22, 1961, 75 Stat. 612, known as the Peace Corps Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2501 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 27 of Pub. L. 87-293 was renumbered section 28 and is set out as an Effective Date note under section 2501 of this title.

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SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 2551. Congressional statement of purpose

An ultimate goal of the United States is a world which is free from the scourge of war and the dangers and burdens of armaments; in which

the use of force has been subordinated to the rule of law; and in which international adjustments to a changing world are achieved peacefully. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide impetus toward this goal by addressing the problem of reduction and control of armaments looking toward ultimate world disarmament.

The Secretary of State must have the capacity to provide the essential scientific, economic, political, military, psychological, and technological information upon which realistic arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament policy must be based. The Secretary shall have the authority, under the direction of the President, to carry out the following primary functions:

(1) The preparation for and management of United States participation in international negotiations and implementation fora in the arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament field.

(2) The conduct, support, and coordination of research for arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament policy formulation.

(3) The preparation for, operation of, or direction of, United States participation in such control systems as may become part of United States arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament activities.

(4) The dissemination and coordination of public information concerning arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament.

(Pub. L. 87-297, title I, §102, formerly §2, Sept. 26, 1961, 75 Stat. 631; Pub. L. 94-141, title I, §144, Nov. 29, 1975, 89 Stat. 758; Pub. L. 103-236, title VII, §§703, 719(a), Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 491, 501; renumbered §102 and amended Pub. L. 105-277, div. G, subdiv. A, title XII, §1223(1), (21), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-768, 2681-772.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-277, §1223(1)(A), in first undesignated par., substituted “addressing” for “creating a new agency of peace to deal with”.

Pub. L. 105-277, §1223(1)(B), struck out second undesignated par. which read as follows: “Arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament policy, being an important aspect of foreign policy, must be consistent with national security policy as a whole. The formulation and implementation of United States arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament policy in a manner which will promote the national security can best be insured by a central organization charged by statute with primary responsibility for this field. This organization must have such a position within the Government that it can provide the President, the Secretary of State, other officials of the executive branch, and the Congress with recommendations concerning United States arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament policy, and can assess the effect of these recommendations upon our foreign policies, our national security policies, and our economy.”

Pub. L. 105-277, §1223(1)(C), in last undesignated par., in introductory provisions, substituted “The Secretary of State” for “This organization”, substituted “The Secretary shall have” for “It shall have”, and struck out “and the Secretary of State” after “the President”, in subpar. (1) inserted “, nonproliferation,” after “arms control”, redesignated subpar. (3) as (2) and struck out former subpar. (2) which read as follows: “When directed by the President, the preparation for, and management of, United States participation in international negotiations and implementation fora in the