

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 109-177 inserted “, Secretary of Homeland Security” after “Secretary of Veterans Affairs”.

1988—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 100-527 inserted reference to Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

1979—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 96-88 substituted “Secretary of Health and Human Services” for “Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare” and inserted reference to Secretary of Education.

1977—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 95-91 inserted reference to Secretary of Energy.

1970—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 91-375 struck out “Postmaster General,” after “Attorney General.”

1966—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 89-670 inserted reference to Secretary of Transportation.

1965—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 89-174 inserted reference to Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-527 effective Mar. 15, 1989, see section 18(a) of Pub. L. 100-527, set out as a Department of Veterans Affairs Act note under section 301 of Title 38, Veterans’ Benefits.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1979 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-88 effective May 4, 1980, with specified exceptions, see section 601 of Pub. L. 96-88, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3401 of Title 20, Education.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-375 effective within 1 year after Aug. 12, 1970, on date established therefor by Board of Governors of United States Postal Service and published by it in Federal Register, see section 16(a), formerly section 15(a) of Pub. L. 91-375, set out as an Effective Date note preceding section 101 of Title 39, Postal Service.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1966 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 89-670 effective Apr. 1, 1967, as prescribed by President and published in Federal Register, see section 16(a), formerly §15(a), of Pub. L. 89-670, and Ex. Ord. No. 11340, Mar. 30, 1967, 32 F.R. 5453.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1965 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 89-174 effective upon expiration of first period of sixty calendar days following Sept. 9, 1965 or on earlier date specified by Executive order, see section 11(a) of Pub. L. 89-174 set out as an Effective Date note under section 3531 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

**§ 20. Resignation or refusal of office**

The only evidence of a refusal to accept, or of a resignation of the office of President or Vice President, shall be an instrument in writing, declaring the same, and subscribed by the person refusing to accept or resigning, as the case may be, and delivered into the office of the Secretary of State.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 644, 62 Stat. 678.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**PRESIDENTIAL RECORDINGS AND MATERIALS  
PRESERVATION ACT

For protection and preservation of tape recordings of conversations involving former President Richard M.

Nixon, see sections 101 to 106 of Pub. L. 93-526, set out as a note under section 2107 of Title 44, Public Printing and Documents.

**§ 21. Definitions**

As used in this chapter the term—

(1) “election day” means the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, in every fourth year succeeding every election of a President and Vice President held in each State, except, in the case of a State that appoints electors by popular vote, if the State modifies the period of voting, as necessitated by force majeure events that are extraordinary and catastrophic, as provided under laws of the State enacted prior to such day, “election day” shall include the modified period of voting.

(2) “State” includes the District of Columbia.

(3) “executive” means, with respect to any State, the Governor of the State (or, in the case of the District of Columbia, the Mayor of the District of Columbia), except when the laws or constitution of a State in effect as of election day expressly require a different State executive to perform the duties identified under this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 87-389, §2(a), Oct. 4, 1961, 75 Stat. 820; amended Pub. L. 117-328, div. P, title I, §§102(b), 104(b), Dec. 29, 2022, 136 Stat. 5233, 5235.)

**Editorial Notes**

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2022—Pub. L. 117-328, §102(b), added par. (1) and redesignated former subssecs. (a) and (b) as pars. (2) and (3), respectively.

Par. (3). Pub. L. 117-328, §104(b), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3), as redesignated from subsec. (b), which read as follows: “‘executives of each State’ includes the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia.”

**Executive Documents**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Except as otherwise provided in Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1967, eff. Aug. 11, 1967 (in part), 32 F.R. 11669, 81 Stat. 948, functions of Board of Commissioners of District of Columbia transferred to Commissioner of District of Columbia by section 401 of Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1967. Office of Commissioner of District of Columbia, as established by Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1967, abolished as of noon Jan. 2, 1975, by Pub. L. 93-198, title VII, §711, Dec. 24, 1973, 87 Stat. 818, and replaced by office of Mayor of District of Columbia by section 421 of Pub. L. 93-198.

**§ 22. Severability**

If any provision of this chapter, or the application of a provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this chapter, and the application of the provisions to any person or circumstance, shall not be affected by the holding.

(Added Pub. L. 117-328, div. P, title I, §111(a), Dec. 29, 2022, 136 Stat. 5240.)

**CHAPTER 2—OFFICE AND COMPENSATION  
OF PRESIDENT**

## Sec.

101. Commencement of term of office.