

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 99-578, §1(1), redesignated former subsec. (d) as (f).

1983—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 98-167 inserted “This limitation does not apply in the case of a contract that authorizes a person to collect a fee as provided in subsection (b) of this section.”

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2017 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-91 effective Jan. 1, 2020, see section 1701(j) of Pub. L. 115-91, set out as a note under section 657a of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1997 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-135 effective Oct. 1, 1997, see section 3 of Pub. L. 105-135, set out as a note under section 631 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102-589, §7, Nov. 10, 1992, 106 Stat. 5135, provided that: “The provisions of this Act [amending this section and section 3720A of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 6501 of this title, and amending provisions set out as notes under this section and sections 3335 and 6503 of this title] and amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 10, 1992], except if such date of enactment is on or after October 1, 1992, such provisions and amendments shall be effective as if enacted on September 30, 1992.”

##### EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 99-578, §5, Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3307, as amended by Pub. L. 102-589, §4(c), Nov. 10, 1992, 106 Stat. 5134, which provided that Pub. L. 99-578 and the amendments made by section 1 of Pub. L. 99-578 (amending this section and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section) were to be in effect until Sept. 30, 1996, was repealed by Pub. L. 104-134, title III, §31001(cc)(2), Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-380.

##### REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 99-578, §4, Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3307, provided that: “The Attorney General shall issue regulations to carry out this Act and the amendments made by section 1 of this Act [amending this section and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section]. The Attorney General shall submit the regulations to the Congress at least 60 days before they become effective.”

##### EXTENSION OF CONTRACTS WITH PRIVATE COUNSEL

Pub. L. 102-589, §4(d), Nov. 10, 1992, 106 Stat. 5134, provided that: “The Attorney General may extend or modify any or all of the contracts entered into with private counsel prior to October 1, 1992, for such time as is necessary to conduct a full and open competition in accordance with section 3718(b) of title 31, United States Code.”

##### AUDIT BY INSPECTOR GENERAL

Pub. L. 102-589, §5, Nov. 10, 1992, 106 Stat. 5134, provided that:

“(a) CONTENTS OF AUDIT.—The Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct an audit, for the period beginning on October 1, 1991, and ending on September 30, 1994, of the actions of the Attorney General under subsection (b) of section 3718 of title 31, United States Code, under the pilot program referred to in section 3 of the Act entitled ‘An Act to amend section 3718 of title 31, United States Code, to authorize contracts retaining private counsel to furnish legal services in the case of indebtedness owed the United States,’ approved October 29, 1986 (37 U.S.C. 3718 note; Public Law 99-578 [set out below]). The Inspector General shall determine the extent of the competition among private counsel to obtain contracts awarded

under such subsection, the reasonableness of the fees provided in such contracts, the diligence and efforts of the Attorney General to retain private counsel in accordance with the provisions of such subsection, the results of the debt collection efforts of private counsel retained under such contracts, and the cost-effectiveness of the pilot project compared with the use of United States Attorneys’ Offices for debt collection.

“(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—After completing the audit under subsection (a), the Inspector General shall transmit to the Congress, not later than June 30, 1995, a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the audit.”

##### PILOT PROGRAM; EXTENSION

Pub. L. 99-578, §3, Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3307, as amended by Pub. L. 102-589, §4(b), Nov. 10, 1992, 106 Stat. 5134, which directed Attorney General to carry out subsections (b) and (c) of this section through a pilot program in each of at least 5 and not more than 15 judicial districts selected by the Attorney General, was repealed by Pub. L. 104-134, title III, §31001(cc)(2), Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-380.

Pub. L. 104-134, title I, §101(a) [title I, §120], Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321, 1321-22; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 104-140, §1(a), May 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 1327, provided that the pilot debt collection project authorized by Public Law 99-578 (formerly set out above) was extended through September 30, 1997.

Prior extensions of the pilot program for legal services were contained in the following acts:

Pub. L. 102-589, §4(a), Nov. 10, 1992, 106 Stat. 5134.

Pub. L. 102-395, title I, Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1832.

Pub. L. 101-302, title II, May 25, 1990, 104 Stat. 216.

##### REPORT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Pub. L. 99-578, §2, Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3307, directed Attorney General, not later than 180 days after Oct. 28, 1986, to transmit to Congress a report on actions taken under subsec. (b) of this section, as added by Pub. L. 99-578.

##### AUDIT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL

Pub. L. 99-578, §6, Oct. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3307, provided that:

“(a) CONTENTS OF AUDIT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall, at the end of the 3-year period referred to in section 5 [set out above], conduct an audit of the actions of the Attorney General under subsection (b) of section 3718 of title 31, United States Code (as added by section 1 of this Act), under the pilot program referred to in section 3 [set out above]. The Comptroller General shall determine the extent of the competition among private counsel to obtain contracts awarded under such subsection, the reasonableness of the fees provided in such contracts, the diligence and efforts of the Attorney General to retain private counsel in accordance with the provisions of such subsection, and the results of the debt collection efforts of private counsel retained under such contracts.

“(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—After completing the audit under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall transmit to the Congress a report on the findings and conclusions resulting from the audit.”

#### § 3719. Reports on debt collection activities

(a) In consultation with the Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe regulations requiring the head of each agency with outstanding nontax claims to prepare and submit to the Secretary at least once each year a report summarizing the status of loans and accounts receivable that are managed by the head of the agency. The report shall contain—

(1) information on—

(A) the total amount of loans and accounts receivable owed the agency and when

amounts owed the agency are due to be repaid;

(B) the total amount of receivables and number of claims at least 30 days past due;

(C) the total amount written off as actually uncollectible and the total amount allowed for uncollectible loans and accounts receivable;

(D) the rate of interest charged for overdue debts and the amount of interest charged and collected on debts;

(E) the total number of claims and the total amount collected; and

(F) the number and total amount of claims referred to the Attorney General for settlement and the number and total amount of claims the Attorney General settles;

(2) the information described in clause (1) of this subsection for each program or activity the head of the agency carries out; and

(3) other information the Secretary considers necessary to decide whether the head of the agency is acting aggressively to collect the claims of the agency.

(b) The Secretary shall analyze the reports submitted under subsection (a) of this section and shall report annually to Congress on the management of debt collection activities by the head of each agency, including the information provided the Secretary under subsection (a).

(Added Pub. L. 97-452, § 1(16)(A), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2473; amended Pub. L. 104-134, title III, § 31001(aa)(3), Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-380.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
3719(a) .....	31 App.:955(a).	Oct. 25, 1982, Pub. L. 97-365, § 12, 96 Stat. 1756.
3719(b) .....	31 App.:955(b).	

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “of the United States” are omitted as surplus. The words “the head of” are added for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. In clause (1)(C), the words “uncollectible loans and accounts receivable” are added for clarity. In clause (1)(F), the words “Attorney General” are substituted for “Department of Justice” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the Code, including 28:503, 509.

In subsection (b), the word “submitted” is substituted for “received by each agency” for clarity.

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-134, § 31001(aa)(3)(A)(i), amended first sentence generally. Prior to amendment, first sentence read as follows: “In consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller General, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall prescribe regulations requiring the head of each agency with outstanding debts to prepare and submit to the Director and the Secretary at least once each year a report summarizing the status of loans and accounts receivable managed by the head of the agency.”

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 104-134, § 31001(aa)(3)(A)(ii), substituted “Secretary” for “Director”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-134, § 31001(aa)(3)(B), which directed that subsec. (b) be amended by substituting “Secretary” for “Director”, was executed by making

the substitution to both places where “Director” appeared.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of provisions of law requiring submittal to Congress of any annual, semiannual, or other regular periodic report listed in House Document No. 103-7 (in which the reporting requirement under subsec. (b) of this section is listed on page 42), see section 3003 of Pub. L. 104-66, as amended, and section 1(a)(4) [div. A, § 1402(1)] of Pub. L. 106-554, set out as notes under section 1113 of this title.

##### CONSOLIDATION OF REPORTS

Pub. L. 104-134, title III, § 31001(aa)(4), Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-380, provided that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Treasury may consolidate reports concerning debt collection otherwise required to be submitted by the Secretary into one annual report.”

#### § 3720. Collection of payments

(a) Each head of an executive agency (other than an agency subject to section 9 of the Act of May 18, 1933 (48 Stat. 63, chapter 32; 16 U.S.C. 831h)) shall, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, provide for the timely deposit of money by officials and agents of such agency in accordance with section 3302, and for the collection and timely deposit of sums owed to such agency by the use of such procedures as withdrawals and deposits by electronic transfer of funds, automatic withdrawals from accounts at financial institutions, and a system under which financial institutions receive and deposit, on behalf of the executive agency, payments transmitted to post office lockboxes. The Secretary is authorized to collect from any agency not complying with the requirements imposed pursuant to the preceding sentence a charge in an amount the Secretary determines to be the cost to the general fund caused by such noncompliance.

(b) The head of an executive agency shall pay to the Secretary of the Treasury charges imposed pursuant to subsection (a). Payments shall be made out of amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to carry out the program to which the collections relate. The amounts of the charges paid under this subsection shall be deposited in the Cash Management Improvements Fund established by subsection (c).

(c) There is established in the Treasury of the United States a revolving fund to be known as the “Cash Management Improvements Fund”. Sums in the fund shall be available without fiscal year limitation for the payment of expenses incurred in developing the methods of collection and deposit described in subsection (a) of this section and the expenses incurred in carrying out collections and deposits using such methods, including the costs of personal services and the costs of the lease or purchase of equipment and operating facilities.

(Added Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title VI, § 2652(a)(1), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1152.)