

responsibilities pursuant to this chapter. Upon request of the President, the head of any Federal agency is directed to detail to temporary duty with the emergency support teams on either a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, as is determined necessary by the President, such personnel within the administrative jurisdiction of the head of the Federal agency as the President may need or believe to be useful for carrying out the functions of the emergency support teams, each such detail to be without loss of seniority, pay, or other employee status.

**(b) Emergency response teams**

**(1) Establishment**

In carrying out subsection (a), the President, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall establish—

(A) at a minimum 3 national response teams; and

(B) sufficient regional response teams, including Regional Office strike teams under section 317 of title 6; and

(C) other response teams as may be necessary to meet the incident management responsibilities of the Federal Government.

**(2) Target capability level**

The Administrator shall ensure that specific target capability levels, as defined pursuant to the guidelines established under section 746(a) of title 6, are established for Federal emergency response teams.

**(3) Personnel**

The President, acting through the Administrator, shall ensure that the Federal emergency response teams consist of adequate numbers of properly planned, organized, equipped, trained, and exercised personnel to achieve the established target capability levels. Each emergency response team shall work in coordination with State and local officials and onsite personnel associated with a particular incident.

**(4) Readiness reporting**

The Administrator shall evaluate team readiness on a regular basis and report team readiness levels in the report required under section 752(a) of title 6.

(Pub. L. 93-288, title III, §303, formerly §304, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 148; renumbered §303, Pub. L. 100-707, title I, §105(c), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691; amended Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, §633, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1421; Pub. L. 111-351, §3(c)(2), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3864.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 93-288, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 143. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5121 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 303 of Pub. L. 93-288 was renumbered section 302 by Pub. L. 100-707 and is classified to section 5143 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 111-351 substituted “Administrator” for “Director” wherever appearing.

2006—Pub. L. 109-295 substituted “Emergency support and response teams” for “Emergency support teams” in section catchline, designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted subsec. heading, and added subsec. (b).

**§§ 5145, 5146. Repealed. Pub. L. 100-707, title I, § 105(d), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691**

Section 5145, Pub. L. 93-288, title III, §305, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 148, related to authority of President to provide assistance in an emergency.

Section 5146, Pub. L. 93-288, title III, §306, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 148, related to cooperation of Federal agencies in rendering disaster assistance.

**§ 5147. Reimbursement of Federal agencies**

Federal agencies may be reimbursed for expenditures under this chapter from funds appropriated for the purposes of this chapter. Any funds received by Federal agencies as reimbursement for services or supplies furnished under the authority of this chapter shall be deposited to the credit of the appropriation or appropriations currently available for such services or supplies.

(Pub. L. 93-288, title III, §304, formerly §307, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 149; renumbered §304, Pub. L. 100-707, title I, §105(d), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 93-288, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 143. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5121 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 304 of Pub. L. 93-288 was renumbered section 303 by Pub. L. 100-707 and is classified to section 5144 of this title.

**§ 5148. Nonliability of Federal Government**

The Federal Government shall not be liable for any claim based upon the exercise or performance of or the failure to exercise or perform a discretionary function or duty on the part of a Federal agency or an employee of the Federal Government in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 93-288, title III, §305, formerly §308, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 149; renumbered §305, Pub. L. 100-707, title I, §105(d), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 93-288, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 143. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5121 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 305 of Pub. L. 93-288 was classified to section 5145 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 100-707.

**§ 5149. Performance of services****(a) Utilization of services or facilities of State and local governments**

In carrying out the purposes of this chapter, any Federal agency is authorized to accept and utilize the services or facilities of any State or local government, or of any agency, office, or employee thereof, with the consent of such government.

**(b) Appointment of temporary personnel, experts, and consultants; acquisition, rental, or hire of equipment, services, materials and supplies**

In performing any services under this chapter, any Federal agency is authorized—

(1) to appoint and fix the compensation of such temporary personnel as may be necessary, without regard to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in competitive service;

(2) to employ experts and consultants in accordance with the provisions of section 3109 of such title, without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates; and

(3) to incur obligations on behalf of the United States by contract or otherwise for the acquisition, rental, or hire of equipment, services, materials, and supplies for shipping, drayage, travel, and communications, and for the supervision and administration of such activities. Such obligations, including obligations arising out of the temporary employment of additional personnel, may be incurred by an agency in such amount as may be made available to it by the President.

**(c) Appointment of temporary personnel in the Federal Emergency Management Agency**

The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency is authorized to appoint temporary personnel, after serving continuously for 3 years, to positions in the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the same manner that competitive service employees with competitive status are considered for transfer, reassignment, or promotion to such positions. An individual appointed under this subsection shall become a career-conditional employee, unless the employee has already completed the service requirements for career tenure.

**(d) Personnel performing service responding to disasters and emergencies****(1) USERRA employment and reemployment rights**

The protections, rights, benefits, and obligations provided under chapter 43 of title 38 shall apply to intermittent personnel appointed pursuant to subsection (b)(1) to perform service to the Federal Emergency Management Agency under sections 5170 and 5191 of this title or to train for such service.

**(2) Notice of absence from position of employment**

Preclusion of giving notice of service by necessity of service under subsection (b)(1) to perform service to the Federal Emergency

Management Agency under sections 5170 and 5191 of this title or to train for such service shall be considered preclusion by “military necessity” for purposes of section 4312(b) of title 38 pertaining to giving notice of absence from a position of employment. A determination of such necessity shall be made by the Administrator and shall not be subject to review in any judicial or administrative proceeding.

(Pub. L. 93–288, title III, § 306, formerly § 309, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 149; renumbered § 306, Pub. L. 100–707, title I, § 105(d), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691; amended Pub. L. 115–254, div. D, § 1222, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3454; Pub. L. 117–178, § 2, Sept. 29, 2022, 136 Stat. 2110.)

**Editorial Notes****REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 93–288, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 143. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5121 of this title and Tables.

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 306 of Pub. L. 93–288 was classified to section 5146 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 100–707.

**AMENDMENTS**

2022—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 117–178 added subsec. (d).

2018—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115–254 added subsec. (c).

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 115–254 applicable to each major disaster and emergency declared by the President on or after Aug. 1, 2017, and authorities provided under div. D of Pub. L. 115–254 applicable to each major disaster and emergency declared by the President on or after Jan. 1, 2016, except as otherwise provided, see section 1202 of Pub. L. 115–254, set out as a note under section 5121 of this title.

**§ 5150. Use of local firms and individuals****(a) Contracts or agreements with private entities****(1) In general**

In the expenditure of Federal funds for debris clearance, distribution of supplies, reconstruction, and other major disaster or emergency assistance activities which may be carried out by contract or agreement with private organizations, firms, or individuals, preference shall be given, to the extent feasible and practicable, to those organizations, firms, and individuals residing or doing business primarily in the area affected by such major disaster or emergency.

**(2) Construction**

This subsection shall not be considered to restrict the use of Department of Defense resources under this chapter in the provision of assistance in a major disaster.

**(3) Specific geographic area**

In carrying out this section, a contract or agreement may be set aside for award based on a specific geographic area.