

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**FEDERAL RECORDS MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS WITHOUT  
EFFECT ON CHAPTER

Authority and responsibilities under chapter not limited or repealed by Federal Records Management Amendments of 1976, see section 5(b) of Pub. L. 94-575, set out as a note under section 2901 of this title.

**§ 1501. Definitions**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires—

“document” means a Presidential proclamation or Executive order and an order, regulation, rule, certificate, code of fair competition, license, notice, or similar instrument, issued, prescribed, or promulgated by a Federal agency;

“Federal agency” or “agency” means the President of the United States, or an executive department, independent board, establishment, bureau, agency, institution, commission, or separate office of the administrative branch of the Government of the United States but not the legislative or judicial branches of the Government;

“person” means an individual, partnership, association, or corporation;

“publish” means to circulate for sale or distribution to the public, as determined by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register; and

“National Archives of the United States” has the same meaning as in section 2901(11) of this title.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1273; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(2), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2286; Pub. L. 118-267, §2(b), Jan. 4, 2025, 138 Stat. 2983.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §304 (July 26, 1935, ch. 417, §4, 49 Stat. 501).

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2025—Pub. L. 118-267 inserted definition of “publish”.  
1984—Pub. L. 98-497 inserted definition of “National Archives of the United States”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

**§ 1502. Custody and publishing of Federal documents; appointment of Director**

The Archivist of the United States, acting through the Office of the Federal Register, is charged with the custody and, together with the Director of the Government Publishing Office, with the prompt and uniform publishing of the documents required or authorized to be published by section 1505 of this title. There shall be at the head of the Office a director, appointed by, and who shall act under the general direction of, the Archivist of the United States in carrying out this chapter and the regulations prescribed under it.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1273; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(3), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2287; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1301(c)(1), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537; Pub. L. 118-267, §2(a)(1), Jan. 4, 2025, 138 Stat. 2983.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §301 (July 26, 1935, ch. 417, §1, 49 Stat. 500; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, §202, eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2732, 53 Stat. 1435; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §104(a), 63 Stat. 381).

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2025—Pub. L. 118-267 substituted “publishing” for “printing” in section catchline and “publishing” for “printing and distribution” in text.

2014—Pub. L. 113-235 substituted “Director of the Government Publishing Office” for “Public Printer”.

1984—Pub. L. 98-497 substituted “Archivist of the United States” for “Administrator of General Services” wherever appearing.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

**§ 1503. Filing documents with Office; notation of time; public inspection; transmission for publishing**

The original document required or authorized to be published by section 1505 shall be filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication at times established by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register by regulation. The Archivist of the United States shall cause to be noted on the original of each document the day and hour of filing. Upon filing, the document shall be immediately available for public inspection. The original shall be retained by the National Archives and Records Administration and shall be available for inspection under regulations prescribed by the Archivist, unless such original is disposed of in accordance with disposal schedules submitted by the Administrative Committee and authorized by the Archivist pursuant to regulations issued under chapter 33; however, originals of proclamations of the President and Executive orders shall be permanently retained by the Administration as part of the National Archives of the United States. The Office shall transmit to the Government Publishing Office, as provided by this chapter, each document required or authorized to be published by section 1505. Every Federal agency shall cause to be transmitted for filing the original of all such documents issued, prescribed, or promulgated by the agency.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1274; Pub. L. 95-440, §2, Oct. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 1063; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(4), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2287; Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1301(b), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2537; Pub. L. 118-267, §2(c), Jan. 4, 2025, 138 Stat. 2983.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §302 (July 26, 1935, ch. 417, §2, 49 Stat. 500; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §104(a), 63 Stat. 381).