

EQUITABLE WAGE ADJUSTMENTS FOR CERTAIN  
PREVAILING RATE EMPLOYEES

Pub. L. 92-298, §§1, 2, May 17, 1972, 86 Stat. 146, provided: "That this Act [enacting this note and amending sections 4531 and 4571 of Title 2, The Congress] may be cited as the 'Prevailing Rate Equalization Adjustment Act of 1972'.

"SEC. 2. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any provision of an Executive order or regulation, a wage schedule adjustment for employees of the Government of the United States whose pay is fixed and adjusted from time to time in accordance with prevailing rates—

"(1) if based on a wage survey ordered to be made on or after August 15, 1971, but not placed into effect before November 14, 1971, by reason of the provisions of Executive Order 11615 or Executive Order 11627 [formerly set out as notes under section 1904 of Title 12]; or

"(2) if based on a wage survey which had been scheduled to be made during the period beginning on September 1, 1971, and ending on January 12, 1972, and which was ordered to be made on or after January 23, 1972;

shall be effective on the date on which such wage schedule adjustment would have been effective under section 5343 of title 5, United States (Code), had the fiscal year 1972 schedule for wage surveys for such employees been followed.

"(b) Retroactive pay made under the provisions of this section will be made in accordance with section 5344 of title 5, United States Code."

**Executive Documents**

TERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC  
ISLANDS

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

**§ 5344. Effective date of wage increase; retroactive pay**

(a) Each increase in rates of basic pay granted, pursuant to a wage survey, to prevailing rate employees is effective not later than the first day of the first pay period which begins on or after the 45th day, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, following the date the wage survey is ordered to be made.

(b) Retroactive pay is payable by reason of an increase in rates of basic pay referred to in subsection (a) of this section only when—

(1) the individual is in the service of the Government of the United States, including service in the armed forces, or the government of the District of Columbia on the date of the issuance of the order granting the increase; or

(2) the individual retired or died during the period beginning on the effective date of the increase and ending on the date of issuance of the order granting the increase, and only for services performed during that period.

For the purpose of this subsection, service in the armed forces includes the period provided by statute for the mandatory restoration of the individual to a position in or under the Government of the United States or the government of the District of Columbia after he is relieved from training and service in the armed forces or discharged from hospitalization following that training and service.

(Added Pub. L. 92-392, §1(a), Aug. 19, 1972, 86 Stat. 568.)

**Editorial Notes**

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those comprising subsec. (a) of this section were contained in Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 471 (formerly classified to section 5343 of this title) prior to the general amendment of this subchapter by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 92-392.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on first day of first applicable pay period beginning on or after 90th day after Aug. 19, 1972, see section 15(a) of Pub. L. 92-392, set out as a note under section 5341 of this title.

**[§ 5345. Repealed. Pub. L. 95-454, title VIII, § 801(a)(2), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1221]**

Section, added Pub. L. 92-392, §1(a), Aug. 19, 1972, 86 Stat. 569, related to retained rate of pay on reduction in grade or reassignment.

A prior section 5345, added Pub. L. 90-206, title II, §223(a), Dec. 16, 1967, 81 Stat. 641, which provided for position classification appeals, was omitted in the general amendment of this subchapter, and is covered by section 5346(c) of this title.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective on first day of first applicable pay period beginning on or after 90th day after Oct. 13, 1978, and an employee receiving pay on day before such effective date not to have such pay reduced or terminated and, unless section 5362 applies, employee is entitled to continuation of such pay, etc., see section 801(a)(4) of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as an Effective Date note under section 5361 of this title.

**§ 5346. Job grading system**

(a) The Office of Personnel Management, after consulting with the agencies and with employee organizations, shall establish and maintain a job grading system for positions to which this subchapter applies. In carrying out this subsection, the Office shall—

(1) establish the basic occupational alignment and grade structure or structures for the job grading system;

(2) establish and define individual occupations and the boundaries of each occupation;

(3) establish job titles within occupations;

(4) develop and publish job grading standards; and

(5) provide a method to assure consistency in the application of job standards.

(b) The Office, from time to time, shall review such numbers of positions in each agency as will enable the Office to determine whether the agency is placing positions in occupations and grades in conformance with or consistently with published job standards. When the Office finds that a position is not placed in its proper occupation and grade in conformance with published standards or that a position for which there is no published standard is not placed in the occupation and grade consistently with published standards, it shall, after consultation with appropriate officials of the agency concerned, place the position in its appropriate occupation and grade and shall certify this action to the agency. The agency shall act in accordance with