

(Added Pub. L. 111-292, §2(a), Dec. 9, 2010, 124 Stat. 3165; amended Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XI, §1138(d)(3), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2469; Pub. L. 117-81, div. F, title LXII, §6202(a)(2), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 2389.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 111-292, which was approved Dec. 9, 2010.

AMENDMENTS

- 2021—Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 117-81 added par. (6).
2016—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 114-328 added subsec. (c).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TELECOMMUTING OPPORTUNITIES

Pub. L. 117-81, div. F, title LXII, §6202, Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 2389, provided that:

“(a) DETO POLICY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal department and agency shall establish a policy enumerating the circumstances under which employees may be permitted to temporarily perform work requirements and duties from approved overseas locations where there is a related Foreign Service assignment pursuant to an approved Domestically Employed Teleworking Overseas (DETO) agreement, consistent with the requirements under section 6502 of title 5, United States code [sic] (relating to the executive agencies telework requirements), as amended by paragraph (2), and DETO requirements, as set forth in the Foreign Affairs Manual and Foreign Affairs Handbook of the Department of State.

“(2) AMENDMENT.—[Amended this section.]

“(b) ACCESS TO ICASS SYSTEM.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 27, 2021], the Secretary of State shall revise chapter 900 of volume 6 of the Foreign Affairs Manual, the International Cooperative Administrative Support Services Handbook, the Personnel Operations Handbook, and any other relevant regulations to allow each Federal agency that has enacted a policy under subsection (a) to have access to the International Cooperative Administrative Support Services (ICASS) system.”

§ 6503. Training and monitoring

(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each executive agency shall ensure that—

(1) an interactive telework training program is provided to—

- (A) employees eligible to participate in the telework program of the agency; and
(B) all managers of teleworkers;

(2) except as provided under subsection (b), an employee has successfully completed the interactive telework training program before that employee enters into a written agreement to telework described under section 6502(b)(2);

(3) teleworkers and nonteleworkers are treated the same for purposes of—

- (A) periodic appraisals of job performance of employees;
(B) training, rewarding, reassigning, promoting, reducing in grade, retaining, and removing employees;
(C) work requirements; or
(D) other acts involving managerial discretion; and

(4) when determining what constitutes diminished employee performance, the agency

shall consult the performance management guidelines of the Office of Personnel Management.

(b) TRAINING REQUIREMENT EXEMPTIONS.—The head of an executive agency may provide for an exemption from the training requirements under subsection (a), if the head of that agency determines that the training would be unnecessary because the employee is already teleworking under a work arrangement in effect before the date of enactment of this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 111-292, §2(a), Dec. 9, 2010, 124 Stat. 3166.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 111-292, which was approved Dec. 9, 2010.

§ 6504. Policy and support

(a) AGENCY CONSULTATION WITH THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.—Each executive agency shall consult with the Office of Personnel Management in developing telework policies.

(b) GUIDANCE AND CONSULTATION.—The Office of Personnel Management shall—

- (1) provide policy and policy guidance for telework in the areas of pay and leave, agency closure, performance management, official worksite, recruitment and retention, and accommodations for employees with disabilities;
(2) assist each agency in establishing appropriate qualitative and quantitative measures and teleworking goals; and
(3) consult with—

(A) the Federal Emergency Management Agency on policy and policy guidance for telework in the areas of continuation of operations and long-term emergencies;

(B) the General Services Administration on policy and policy guidance for telework in the areas of telework centers, travel, technology, equipment, and dependent care; and

(C) the National Archives and Records Administration on policy and policy guidance for telework in the areas of efficient and effective records management and the preservation of records, including Presidential and Vice-Presidential records.

(c) SECURITY GUIDELINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the Department of Homeland Security and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, shall issue guidelines not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this chapter to ensure the adequacy of information and security protections for information and information systems used while teleworking.

(2) CONTENTS.—Guidelines issued under this subsection shall, at a minimum, include requirements necessary to—

(A) control access to agency information and information systems;

(B) protect agency information (including personally identifiable information) and information systems;

(C) limit the introduction of vulnerabilities;

(D) protect information systems not under the control of the agency that are used for teleworking;

(E) safeguard wireless and other telecommunications capabilities that are used for teleworking; and

(F) prevent inappropriate use of official time or resources that violates subpart G of the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch by viewing, downloading, or exchanging pornography, including child pornography.

(d) CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANS.—

(1) INCORPORATION INTO CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANS.—Each executive agency shall incorporate telework into the continuity of operations plan of that agency.

(2) CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANS SUPERSEDE TELEWORK POLICY.—During any period that an executive agency is operating under a continuity of operations plan, that plan shall supersede any telework policy.

(e) TELEWORK WEBSITE.—The Office of Personnel Management shall—

(1) maintain a central telework website; and

(2) include on that website related—

(A) telework links;

(B) announcements;

(C) guidance developed by the Office of Personnel Management; and

(D) guidance submitted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the General Services Administration to the Office of Personnel Management not later than 10 business days after the date of submission.

(f) POLICY GUIDANCE ON PURCHASING COMPUTER SYSTEMS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this chapter, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall issue policy guidance requiring each executive agency when purchasing computer systems, to purchase computer systems that enable and support telework, unless the head of the agency determines that there is a mission-specific reason not to do so.

(Added Pub. L. 111-292, §2(a), Dec. 9, 2010, 124 Stat. 3167.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this chapter, referred to in subsecs. (c)(1) and (f), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 111-292, which was approved Dec. 9, 2010.

§ 6505. Telework Managing Officer

(a) DESIGNATION.—The head of each executive agency shall designate an employee of the agency as the Telework Managing Officer. The Telework Managing Officer shall be established within the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer or a comparable office with similar functions.

(b) DUTIES.—The Telework Managing Officer shall—

(1) be devoted to policy development and implementation related to agency telework programs;

(2) serve as—

(A) an advisor for agency leadership, including the Chief Human Capital Officer;

(B) a resource for managers and employees; and

(C) a primary agency point of contact for the Office of Personnel Management on telework matters; and

(3) perform other duties as the applicable delegating authority may assign.

(c) STATUS WITHIN AGENCY.—The Telework Managing Officer of an agency shall be a senior official of the agency who has direct access to the head of the agency.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING STATUS OF TELEWORK MANAGING OFFICER.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an individual who holds another office or position in an agency from serving as the Telework Managing Officer for the agency under this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 111-292, §2(a), Dec. 9, 2010, 124 Stat. 3168.)

§ 6506. Reports

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “executive agency” shall not include the Government Accountability Office.

(b) REPORTS BY THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.—

(1) SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this chapter and on an annual basis thereafter, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, in consultation with Chief¹ Human Capital Officers Council, shall—

(A) submit a report addressing the telework programs of each executive agency to—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives; and

(B) transmit a copy of the report to the Comptroller General and the Office of Management and Budget.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under this subsection shall include—

(A) the degree of participation by employees of each executive agency in teleworking during the period covered by the report (and for each executive agency whose head is referred to under section 5312, the degree of participation in each bureau, division, or other major administrative unit of that agency), including—

(i) the total number of employees in the agency;

(ii) the number and percent of employees in the agency who are eligible to telework; and

(iii) the number and percent of eligible employees in the agency who are teleworking—

(I) 3 or more days per pay period;

¹ So in original. Probably should be preceded by “the”.