

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 113–126 struck out subsec. (e). Text read as follows: “The notification requirements of this section shall cease to be effective for any disclosure described in subsection (a) that occurs on or after the date that is one year after January 14, 2013.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 112–277, § 2, Jan. 14, 2013, 126 Stat. 2469, provided that: “In this Act [see Tables for classification]:

“(1) CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES.—The term ‘congressional intelligence committees’ means—

“(A) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

“(B) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

“(2) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ‘intelligence community’ has the meaning given that term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 401a(4)) [now 50 U.S.C. 3003(4)].”

§ 3350. Maximum amount charged for declassification reviews

In reviewing and processing a request by a person for the mandatory declassification of information pursuant to Executive Order No. 13526, a successor executive order, or any provision of law, the head of an element of the intelligence community—

(1) may not charge the person reproduction fees in excess of the amount of fees that the head would charge the person for reproduction required in the course of processing a request for information under section 552 of title 5 (commonly referred to as the “Freedom of Information Act”); and

(2) may waive or reduce any processing fees in the same manner as the head waives or reduces fees under such section 552.

(Pub. L. 115–31, div. N, title III, § 313, May 5, 2017, 131 Stat. 816.)

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REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order No. 13526, referred to in text, is Ex. Ord. No. 13526, Dec. 29, 2009, 75 F.R. 707, 1013, which is set out as a note under section 3161 of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DEFINITIONS

For definition of “intelligence community” as used in this section, see section 2 of div. N of Pub. L. 115–31, set out as a note under section 3003 of this title.

§ 3350a. Promoting efficient declassification review**(a) In general**

Whenever an agency is processing a request pursuant to section 552 of title 5 (commonly known as the “Freedom of Information Act”) or the mandatory declassification review provisions of Executive Order 13526 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to classified national security information), or successor order, and identifies responsive classified records that are more than 25

years of age as of December 31 of the year in which the request is received, the head of the agency shall, in accordance with existing processes to protect national security under the Freedom of Information Act and the mandatory review provisions of Executive Order 12526,¹ review the record and process the record for declassification and release by the National Declassification Center of the National Archives and Records Administration, unless the head of agency—

(1) makes a certification to Congress, including the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, that the declassification of certain components within the record would be harmful to the protection of sources and methods or national security, pursuant to existing processes; and

(2) provides an explanation to Congress, including the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, for such certification.

(b) Application

Subsection (a) shall apply regardless of whether or not the record described in such subsection is in the legal custody of the National Archives and Records Administration.

(Pub. L. 118–31, div. G, title VI, § 7602, Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 1096.)

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REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order 13526, referred to in subsec. (a), is Ex. Ord. No. 13526, Dec. 29, 2009, 75 F.R. 707, 1013, which is set out as a note under section 3161 of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DEFINITIONS

For definition of “congressional intelligence committees” as used in this section, see section 7002 of Pub. L. 118–31, set out as a note under section 3003 of this title.

§ 3351. Improving quality of information in background investigation request packages**(a) Report on metrics and best practices**

Not later than 180 days after December 20, 2019, the Director of the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, which serves as the primary executive branch service provider for background investigations for eligibility for

¹ So in original. Probably should be “13526.”

access to classified information, eligibility to hold a sensitive position, and for suitability and fitness for other matters pursuant to Executive Order 13467 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to reforming processes related to suitability for Government employment, fitness for contractor employees, and eligibility for access to classified national security information), shall, in consultation with the Security, Suitability, and Credentialing Performance Accountability Council established under such executive order, submit to Congress a report on—

(1) metrics for assessing the completeness and quality of packages for background investigations submitted by agencies requesting background investigations from the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency;

(2) rejection rates of background investigation submission packages due to incomplete or erroneous data, by agency; and

(3) best practices for ensuring full and complete information in background investigation requests.

(b) Annual report on performance

Not later than 270 days after December 20, 2019, and not less frequently than once each year thereafter, the Security, Suitability, and Credentialing Performance Accountability Council shall submit to Congress a report on performance against the metrics and return rates identified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a).

(c) Improvement plans

(1) Identification

Not later than one year after December 20, 2019, executive agents under Executive Order 13467 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) shall identify agencies in need of improvement with respect to the quality of the information in the background investigation submissions of the agencies as reported in subsection (b).

(2) Plans

Not later than 90 days after an agency is identified under paragraph (1), the head of the agency shall provide the executive agents referred to in such paragraph with a plan to improve the performance of the agency with respect to the quality of the information in the agency's background investigation submissions.

(Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title XVII, §1757, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1860.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order 13467, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c)(1), is Ex. Ord. No. 13467, June 30, 2008, 73 F.R. 38103, which is set out as a note under section 3161 of this title.

§ 3351a. Making certain policies and execution plans relating to personnel clearances available to industry partners

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Security executive agent

The term “Security Executive Agent” means the officer serving as the Security Ex-

ecutive Agent pursuant to section 3162a of this title.

(2) Appropriate industry partner

The term “appropriate industry partner” means a contractor, licensee, or grantee (as defined in section 101(a) of Executive Order 12829 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to National Industrial Security Program), as in effect on the day before December 20, 2019) that is participating in the National Industrial Security Program established by such Executive Order.

(b) Sharing of policies and plans required

Each head of a Federal agency shall share policies and plans relating to security clearances with appropriate industry partners directly affected by such policies and plans in a manner consistent with the protection of national security as well as the goals and objectives of the National Industrial Security Program administered pursuant to Executive Order 12829 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; relating to the National Industrial Security Program).

(c) Development of policies and procedures required

Not later than 90 days after December 20, 2019, the Security Executive Agent and the Director of the National Industrial Security Program shall jointly develop policies and procedures by which appropriate industry partners with proper security clearances and a need to know can have appropriate access to the policies and plans shared pursuant to subsection (b) that directly affect those industry partners.

(Pub. L. 116-92, div. E, title LIV, §5402, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2143.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order 12829, referred to in subsecs. (a)(2) and (b), is Ex. Ord. No. 12829, Jan. 6, 1993, 58 F.R. 3479, which is set out as a note under section 3161 of this title.

§ 3351b. Limitations on determinations regarding certain security classifications

(a) Prohibition

An officer of an element of the intelligence community who has been nominated by the President for a position that requires the advice and consent of the Senate may not make a classification decision with respect to information related to such officer's nomination.

(b) Classification determinations

(1) In general

Except as provided in paragraph (2), in a case in which an officer described in subsection (a) has been nominated as described in such subsection and classification authority rests with the officer or another officer who reports directly to such officer, a classification decision with respect to information relating to the officer shall be made by the Director of National Intelligence.

(2) Nominations of Director of National Intelligence

In a case described in paragraph (1) in which the officer nominated is the Director of Na-