

this title, the amount required under subsection (b), until such time as the Board is able to comply with subparagraph (B); and

(B) provide to all eligible persons the total amount of assessments demanded by all eligible producers.

(2) If the amount in the escrow account required to be established by subsection (a) is not sufficient to refund the total amount of assessments demanded by all eligible persons under this section and the continuation of an order is not approved pursuant to the referendum required under section 2906(a) of this title, the Board shall prorate the amount of such refunds among all eligible persons who demand such refund.

(Pub. L. 94-294, §8, May 28, 1976, 90 Stat. 532; Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, §1601(b), Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1604.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in provisions preceding par. 1 of subsec. (c), was in the original "this subtitle", and was translated as reading "this Act" to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Section 2906(a) of this title, referred to in subsec. (f)(1), was in the original a reference to section 10(a) of Pub. L. 94-294, section 2909(a) of this title, and was translated as section 2906(a) of this title as the probable intent of Congress, in view of section 2909 of this title not containing a subsec. (a) and the subject matter of section 2906(a) which relates to a referendum.

##### AMENDMENTS

1985—Pub. L. 99-198 amended section generally, substituting provisions relating to refunds for provisions relating to required terms and conditions in orders.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1985 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-198 effective Jan. 1, 1986, see section 1601(c) of Pub. L. 99-198, set out as a note under section 2901 of this title.

#### § 2908. Enforcement

##### (a) Restraining order; civil penalty

If the Secretary believes that the administration and enforcement of this chapter or an order would be adequately served by such procedure, following an opportunity for an administrative hearing on the record, the Secretary may—

- (1) issue an order to restrain or prevent a person from violating an order; and
- (2) assess a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for violation of such order.

##### (b) Jurisdiction of district court

The district courts of the United States are vested with jurisdiction specifically to enforce, and to prevent and restrain a person from violating, an order or regulation made or issued under this chapter.

##### (c) Civil action to be referred to Attorney General

A civil action authorized to be brought under this section shall be referred to the Attorney General for appropriate action.

(Pub. L. 94-294, §9, May 28, 1976, 90 Stat. 534; Pub. L. 95-334, title III, §302, Aug. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 433;

Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, §1601(b), Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1605.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

1985—Pub. L. 99-198 amended section generally, substituting provisions relating to enforcement for provisions relating to referendum and cattle producer approval of orders, reimbursement of expenses by Secretary, procedural requirements, and bonding requirements.

1978—Pub. L. 95-334 substituted "a majority" for "not less than two-thirds".

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1985 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-198 effective Jan. 1, 1986, see section 1601(c) of Pub. L. 99-198, set out as a note under section 2901 of this title.

#### § 2909. Investigations by Secretary; oaths and affirmations; subpoenas; judicial enforcement; contempt proceedings; service of process

The Secretary may make such investigations as the Secretary deems necessary for the effective administration of this chapter or to determine whether any person subject to this chapter has engaged or is about to engage in any act that constitutes or will constitute a violation of this chapter, the order, or any rule or regulation issued under this chapter. For the purpose of such investigation, the Secretary may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any records that are relevant to the inquiry. The attendance of witnesses and the production of records may be required from any place in the United States. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena to, any person, the Secretary may invoke the aid of any court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which such investigation or proceeding is carried on, or where such person resides or carries on business, in requiring the attendance and testimony of the person and the production of records. The court may issue an order requiring such person to appear before the Secretary to produce records or to give testimony regarding the matter under investigation. Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof. Process in any such case may be served in the judicial district in which such person is an inhabitant or wherever such person may be found.

(Pub. L. 94-294, §10, May 28, 1976, 90 Stat. 535; Pub. L. 99-198, title XVI, §1601(b), Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1606.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

1985—Pub. L. 99-198 amended section generally, substituting provisions relating to investigations, power to subpoena and take oaths and affirmations, and aid of courts, for provisions relating to termination or suspension of orders.