

partment made or authorized by this chapter, the Secretary may transfer within the Department—

(A) any of the records, property, or personnel affected by the transfer or delegation of the function; and

(B) unexpended balances (available or to be made available for use in connection with the transferred or delegated function) of appropriations, allocations, or other funds of the Department.

(2) Applicable law relating to funds transfer

Section 1531 of title 31 shall apply to any transfer of funds under paragraph (1).

(e) Exhaustion of administrative appeals

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person shall exhaust all administrative appeal procedures established by the Secretary or required by law before the person may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction against—

- (1) the Secretary;
- (2) the Department; or
- (3) an agency, office, officer, or employee of the Department.

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §212, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3210; Pub. L. 110-234, title VII, §7511(c)(27), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1270; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title VII, §7511(c)(27), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2031.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 6911 of this title, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), was repealed by Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, §12414(a)(1), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4981.

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (b)(2), (c), and (d)(1), was in the original “this title”, meaning title II of Pub. L. 103-354, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3209, known as the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994. For complete classification of title II to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6901 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 110-246, §7511(c)(27), substituted “6971(f),” for “6971(d),”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

Amendment by section 7511(c)(27) of Pub. L. 110-246 effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 7511(c) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 1522 of this title.

§§ 6913, 6914. Repealed. Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, §12414(a)(2), (3), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4981

Section 6913, Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §213, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3211, related to reductions in number of Department personnel.

Section 6914, Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §214, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3211, related to consolidation of headquarters offices.

§ 6915. Combination of field offices

(a) Combination of offices required

Where practicable and to the extent consistent with efficient, effective, and improved service, the Secretary shall combine field offices of agencies within the Department to reduce personnel and duplicative overhead expenses.

(b) Joint use of resources and offices required

When two or more agencies of the Department share a common field office, the Secretary shall require the agencies to jointly use office space, equipment, office supplies, administrative personnel, and clerical personnel associated with that field office.

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §215, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3211.)

§ 6916. Improvement of information sharing

Whenever the Secretary procures or uses computer systems, as may be provided for in advance in appropriations Acts, the Secretary shall do so in a manner that enhances efficiency, productivity, and client services and is consistent with the goal of promoting computer information sharing among agencies of the Department.

(Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §216, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3212.)

§ 6917. Repealed. Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, §12414(a)(4), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4981

Section, Pub. L. 103-354, title II, §217, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3212, related to reports by Secretary.

§ 6918. Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture

(a) Authorization

The Secretary is authorized to establish in the Department the positions of—

- (1) Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs;
- (2) Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Administration; and
- (3) Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights.

(b) Confirmation required

If the Secretary establishes any position of Assistant Secretary authorized under paragraph (1) or (3) of subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(c) Duties of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights

The Secretary may delegate to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights responsibility for—

- (1) ensuring compliance with all civil rights and related laws by all agencies and under all programs of the Department;
- (2) coordinating administration of civil rights laws (including regulations) within the Department for employees of, and participants in, programs of the Department; and
- (3) ensuring that necessary and appropriate civil rights components are properly incor-