

years' professional experience may be employed for such service upon such terms as may be prescribed by the Attorney General. Aliens (including alien crewmen) arriving at ports of the United States shall be examined by at least one such medical officer or civil surgeon under such administrative regulations as the Attorney General may prescribe, and under medical regulations prepared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Medical officers of the United States Public Health Service who have had special training in the diagnosis of insanity and mental defects shall be detailed for duty or employed at such ports of entry as the Attorney General may designate, and such medical officers shall be provided with suitable facilities for the detention and examination of all arriving aliens who it is suspected may be inadmissible under paragraph (1) of section 1182(a) of this title, and the services of interpreters shall be provided for such examination. Any alien certified under paragraph (1) of section 1182(a) of this title, may appeal to a board of medical officers of the United States Public Health Service, which shall be convened by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and any such alien may introduce before such board one expert medical witness at his own cost and expense.

**(c) Certification of certain helpless aliens**

If an examining medical officer determines that an alien arriving in the United States is inadmissible, is helpless from sickness, mental or physical disability, or infancy, and is accompanied by another alien whose protection or guardianship may be required, the officer may certify such fact for purposes of applying section 1182(a)(10)(B) of this title with respect to the other alien.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title II, ch. 4, § 232, 66 Stat. 196; Pub. L. 99-500, § 101(b) [title II, § 206(a), formerly § 206], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-39, 1783-56, renumbered § 206(a), Pub. L. 100-525, § 4(b)(1), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2615; Pub. L. 99-591, § 101(b) [title II, § 206], Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341-39, 3341-56; Pub. L. 100-525, § 4(b)(2), (d), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2615; Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title III, §§ 308(b)(2), (3)(C), (c)(2)(A), (d)(4)(H), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-615, 3009-616, 3009-618.)

**Editorial Notes**

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original, "this Act", meaning act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, known as the Immigration and Nationality Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1101 of this title and Tables.

**CODIFICATION**

The text of section 1224 of this title, which was transferred to subsec. (b) of this section by Pub. L. 104-208, § 308(b)(3)(C), was based on acts June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title II, ch. 4, § 234, 66 Stat. 198; Oct. 24, 1988, Pub. L. 100-525, § 9(k), 102 Stat. 2620; Nov. 29, 1990, Pub. L. 101-649, title VI, § 603(a)(10), 104 Stat. 5083; Sept. 30, 1996, Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title III, §§ 308(b)(3)(A), (B), (d)(3)(A), 371(b)(3), 110 Stat. 3009-615, 3009-617, 3009-645.

**AMENDMENTS**

1996—Pub. L. 104-208, § 308(b)(2)(B), amended section catchline generally.

Pub. L. 104-208, § 308(b)(2)(A), inserted "(a) Detention of aliens" before "For the purpose of".

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-208, § 308(d)(4)(H), substituted "inadmissible under" for "excluded by" and "inadmissible classes" for "the excluded classes".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-208, § 308(b)(3)(C), transferred section 1224 of this title to subsec. (b) of this section. See Codification note above.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-208, § 308(c)(2)(A), added subsec. (c).

1988—Pub. L. 100-525, § 4(b)(1), (2), amended Pub. L. 99-500 and 99-591. See 1986 Amendment note below.

1986—Pub. L. 99-500, § 101(b) [title II, § 206(a), formerly § 206], as redesignated and amended by Pub. L. 100-525, § 4(b)(1), (2), substituted "by the Attorney General" for "on board the vessel or at the airport of arrival of the aircraft bringing them, unless the Attorney General directs their detention in a United States immigration station or other place specified by him at the expense of such vessel or aircraft except as otherwise provided in this chapter, as circumstances may require or justify".

Pub. L. 99-591, § 101(b) [title II, § 206], a corrected version of Pub. L. 99-500, § 101(b) [title II, § 206(a)], was repealed by Pub. L. 100-525, § 4(d), effective as of Oct. 30, 1986.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by section 308(b)(2), (3)(C), (c)(2)(A), (d)(4)(H) of Pub. L. 104-208 effective, with certain transitional provisions, on the first day of the first month beginning more than 180 days after Sept. 30, 1996, see section 309 of Pub. L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT**

Pub. L. 100-525, § 4(c), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2615, provided that: "The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) [amending this section and sections 1223, 1227, and 1356 of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 1356 of this title] shall be effective as if they were included in the enactment of the Department of Justice Appropriation Act, 1987 (as contained in section 101(b) of Public Law 99-500)."

**ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

**DESIGNATION OF UNITED STATES MILITARY PHYSICIANS AS CIVIL SURGEONS**

Pub. L. 102-484, div. A, title X, § 1079, Oct. 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 2514, as amended by Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title III, § 308(g)(1), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-622, provided that: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, United States military physicians with not less than four years professional experience shall be considered to be civil surgeons for the purpose of the performance of physical examinations required under section 232(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1224 [8 U.S.C. 1222(b)]) of special immigrants described in section 101(a)(27)(K) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(K))."

**§ 1223. Entry through or from foreign territory and adjacent islands**

**(a) Necessity of transportation contract**

The Attorney General shall have power to enter into contracts with transportation lines

for the inspection and admission of aliens coming to the United States from foreign territory or from adjacent islands. No such transportation line shall be allowed to land any such alien in the United States until and unless it has entered into any such contracts which may be required by the Attorney General.

**(b) Landing stations**

Every transportation line engaged in carrying alien passengers for hire to the United States from foreign territory or from adjacent islands shall provide and maintain at its expense suitable landing stations, approved by the Attorney General, conveniently located at the point or points of entry. No such transportation line shall be allowed to land any alien passengers in the United States until such landing stations are provided, and unless such stations are thereafter maintained to the satisfaction of the Attorney General.

**(c) Landing agreements**

The Attorney General shall have power to enter into contracts including bonding agreements with transportation lines to guarantee the passage through the United States in immediate and continuous transit of aliens destined to foreign countries. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, such aliens may not have their classification changed under section 1258 of this title.

**(d) Definitions**

As used in this section the terms "transportation line" and "transportation company" include, but are not limited to, the owner, charterer, consignee, or authorized agent operating any vessel or aircraft or railroad train bringing aliens to the United States, to foreign territory, or to adjacent islands.

(June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title II, ch. 4, § 233, formerly § 238, 66 Stat. 202; Pub. L. 99-653, § 7(b), Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3657; renumbered § 233 and amended Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title III, §§ 308(b)(4), (f)(4), 362, Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-615, 3009-622, 3009-645.)

**Editorial Notes**

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (c), was in the original, "this Act", meaning act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, 66 Stat. 163, known as the Immigration and Nationality Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1101 of this title and Tables.

**CODIFICATION**

Section was formerly classified to section 1228 of this title prior to renumbering by Pub. L. 104-208.

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 1223, act June 27, 1952, ch. 477, title II, ch. 4, § 233, 66 Stat. 197, related to examinations of aliens upon arrival in the United States, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 99-500, § 101(b) [title II, § 206(a), formerly § 206], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-39, 1783-56; renumbered § 206(a) and amended Pub. L. 100-525, § 4(b)(1), (3), Oct. 24, 1988, 102 Stat. 2615.

**AMENDMENTS**

1996—Pub. L. 104-208, § 362(a)(1), amended section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-208, § 362(a)(2), struck out "contiguous" after "foreign".

Pub. L. 104-208, § 308(f)(4), substituted "inspection and admission" for "entry and inspection".

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-208, § 362(a)(2), struck out "contiguous" after "foreign".

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 104-208, § 362(b), inserted "or railroad train" after "aircraft".

Pub. L. 104-208, § 362(a)(2), struck out "contiguous" after "foreign".

1986—Pub. L. 99-653 struck out subsec. (a) which authorized the Attorney General to enter into contracts with transportation lines for the entry and inspection of aliens and to prescribe regulations, and redesignated subsecs. (b) to (e) as (a) to (d), respectively.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by section 308(b)(4), (f)(4) of Pub. L. 104-208 effective, with certain transitional provisions, on the first day of the first month beginning more than 180 days after Sept. 30, 1996, see section 309 of Pub. L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-653 applicable to visas issued, and admissions occurring, on or after Nov. 14, 1986, see section 23(a) of Pub. L. 99-653, set out as a note under section 1101 of this title.

**ABOLITION OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

For abolition of Immigration and Naturalization Service, transfer of functions, and treatment of related references, see note set out under section 1551 of this title.

**§ 1224. Designation of ports of entry for aliens arriving by aircraft**

The Attorney General is authorized (1) by regulation to designate as ports of entry for aliens arriving by aircraft any of the ports of entry for civil aircraft designated as such in accordance with law; (2) by regulation to provide such reasonable requirements for aircraft in civil air navigation with respect to giving notice of intention to land in advance of landing, or notice of landing, as shall be deemed necessary for purposes of administration and enforcement of this chapter; and (3) by regulation to provide for the application to civil air navigation of the provisions of this chapter where not expressly so provided in this chapter to such extent and upon such conditions as he deems necessary. Any person who violates any regulation made under this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$2,000 which may be remitted or mitigated by the Attorney General in accordance with such proceedings as the Attorney General shall by regulation prescribe. In case the violation is by the owner or person in command of the aircraft, the penalty shall be a lien upon the aircraft, and such aircraft may be libeled therefore in the appropriate United States court. The determination by the Attorney General and remission or mitigation of the civil penalty shall be final. In case the violation is by the owner or person in command of the aircraft, the penalty shall be a lien upon the aircraft and may be collected by proceedings in rem which shall conform as nearly as may be to civil suits in admiralty. The Supreme Court of the United States, and under its direction other courts of the United States, are