

Public Law 101-203  
101st Congress

An Act

To amend section 3724 of title 31, United States Code, to increase the authority of the Attorney General to settle claims for damages resulting from law enforcement activities of the Department of Justice.

Dec. 7, 1989  
[H.R. 972]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO SETTLE CLAIMS.

(a) INCREASED AUTHORITY.—Section 3724 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a)—

(A) by striking out “\$500” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$50,000”; and

(B) by striking out “the Director” and all that follows through “Investigation” and inserting in lieu thereof “an investigative or law enforcement officer as defined in section 2680(h) of title 28 who is employed by the Department of Justice”; and

(2) in subsection (b) by striking out “The Attorney General” in the first sentence and all that follows through “The” in the second sentence and inserting in lieu thereof the following: “The Attorney General shall report annually to the Congress on all settlements made under this section. With respect to each such settlement, the”.

Reports.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The section heading for section 3724 of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 3724. Claims for damages caused by investigative or law enforcement officers of the Department of Justice”.

(2) The item relating to section 3724 in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 37 of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“3724. Claims for damages caused by investigative or law enforcement officers of the Department of Justice.”.

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by section 1 shall apply to—

(1) any claim arising on or after the date of the enactment of this Act,

(2) any claim pending on such date, and

(3) any claim arising before such date which has not been settled if the time for presenting the claim to the Attorney General under the last sentence of section 3724(a) of title 31, United States Code, has not expired.

Approved December 7, 1989.

31 USC 3724  
note.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 972 (S. 604):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 101-46 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 101-163 accompanying S. 604 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 135 (1989):

May 9, considered and passed House.

Oct. 27, considered and passed Senate, amended. S. 604 considered and passed Senate.

Nov. 17, House concurred in Senate amendment with an amendment.

Nov. 20, Senate concurred in House amendment.