make periodic payments to the Bank which shall be sufficient to offset the costs to the Bank of purchasing obligations of local public bodies or agencies upon terms and conditions as prescribed in this section rather than as prescribed by section 2285 of this title. Such contracts may be made in advance of appropriations therefor, and appropriations for making payments under such contracts are hereby authorized.

(Pub. L. 93–224, § 16, Dec. 29, 1973, 87 Stat. 941.)

§ 2294a. Contracts for periodic payments to offset costs of purchase of obligations of local public housing agencies

In addition to any authority provided before October 1, 1981, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may, on and after October 1, 1981, enter into contracts for periodic payments to the Federal Financing Bank to offset the costs to the Bank of purchasing obligations (as described in the first sentence of section 2294(b) of this title) issued by local public housing agencies for purposes of financing public housing projects authorized by section 1437c(c) of title 42. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such contracts may be entered into only to the extent approved in appropriation Acts, and the aggregate amount which may be obligated over the duration of such contracts may not exceed $400,000,000. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated any amounts necessary to provide for such payments. The authority to enter into contracts under this subsection shall be in lieu of any authority (except for authority provided specifically to the Secretary before October 1, 1981) of the Secretary to enter into contracts for such purposes under section 2294(b) of this title.

(Pub. L. 97–35, title III, § 329E, Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 410.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981 and also as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, and not as part of the Federal Financing Bank Act of 1973 which comprises this chapter.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1981, see section 371 of Pub. L. 97–35, set out as a note under section 3701 of this title.

§ 2295. Authority or responsibility under other provisions of law not to be affected or impaired

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as impairing any authority or responsibility of the President or the Secretary of the Treasury under any other provision of law, nor shall anything in this chapter affect in any manner any provision of law concerning the right of any Federal agency to sell obligations to the Secretary of the Treasury or the authority or responsibility of the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase such obligations.

(Pub. L. 93–224, § 17, Dec. 29, 1973, 87 Stat. 942.)

§ 2296. Increase not authorized in amounts of obligations issued, sold, or guaranteed by Federal agencies

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as authorizing an increase in the amounts of obligations issued, sold, or guaranteed by any Federal agency which issues, sells, or guarantees obligations purchased by the Bank.

(Pub. L. 93–224, § 18, Dec. 29, 1973, 87 Stat. 942.)

CHAPTER 25—NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

Sec.
2401. Establishment of Commission.
2402. Membership of Commission.
2403. Functions of Commission.
2404. Powers of Commission.
2405. Executive Director and additional staff personnel; appointment and compensation; experts and consultants; employment and compensation; audits by Comptroller General.
2406. Compensation of members of Commission.
2407. Cooperation and assistance of other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities.
2408. Authorization of appropriations.

§ 2401. Establishment of Commission

There is established the National Commission on Electronic Fund Transfers (hereinafter referred to as the ''Commission'') which shall be an independent instrumentality of the United States.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 201, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1508.)

§ 2402. Membership of Commission

(a) Composition

The Commission shall be composed of twenty-six members as follows:

(1) the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or his delegate;

(2) the Attorney General or his delegate;

(3) the Comptroller of the Currency or his delegate;

(4) the Chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board or his delegate;

(5) the Administrator of the National Credit Union Administration or his delegate;

(6) the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or his delegate;

(7) the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission or his delegate;

(8) the Postmaster General or his delegate;

(9) the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate;

(10) the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission or his delegate;

(11) two individuals, appointed by the President, one of whom is an official of a State agency which regulates banking, or similar financial institutions, and one of whom is an official of a State agency which regulates thrift or similar financial institutions;

(12) seven individuals, appointed by the President, who are officers or employees of, or who otherwise represent banking, thrift, or other business entities, including one rep-

resentative each of commercial banks, mutual savings banks, savings and loan associations, credit unions, retailers, nonbanking institutions offering credit card services, and organizations providing interchange services for credit cards issued by banks;

(13) five individuals, appointed by the President, from private life who are not affiliated with, do not represent and have no substantial interest in any banking, thrift, or other financial institution, including but not limited to credit unions, retailers, and insurance companies;

(14) the Comptroller General of the United States or his delegate; and

(15) the Director of the Office of Technology Assessment.

(b) Designation of Chairperson

The Chairperson shall be designated by the President at the time of his appointment from among the members of the Commission and such selection shall be by and with the advice and consent of the Senate unless the appointee holds an office to which he was appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(c) Vacancies

A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 202, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1508.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions vested in Administrator of National Credit Union Administration transferred and vested in National Credit Union Administration Board pursuant to section 1752a of this title.

Federal Home Loan Bank Board abolished and functions transferred, see sections 401 to 406 of Pub. L. 101–73, set out as a note under section 1437 of this title.

§ 2403. Functions of Commission

(a) Study, investigation, and recommendations; considerations

The Commission shall conduct a thorough study and investigation and recommend appropriate administrative action and legislation necessary in connection with the possible development of public or private electronic fund transfer systems, taking into account, among other things—

(1) the need to preserve competition among the financial institutions and other business enterprises using such a system;

(2) the need to promote competition among financial institutions and to assure Government regulation and involvement or participation in a system competitive with the private sector be kept to a minimum;

(3) the need to prevent unfair or discriminatory practices by any financial institution or business enterprise using or desiring to use such a system;

(4) the need to afford maximum user and consumer convenience;

(5) the need to afford maximum user and consumer rights to privacy and confidentiality;

(6) the impact of such a system on economic and monetary policy;

(7) the implications of such a system on the availability of credit;

(8) the implications of such a system expanding internationally and into other forms of electronic communications; and

(9) the need to protect the legal rights of users and consumers.

(b) Interim and final reports; submission dates; transmittal of final report to President and Congress; contents; availability to public; termination date of Commission

The Commission shall make an interim report within one year of the date of the confirmation by the Senate of the Chairperson or the appointment by the President of an acting Chairperson and at such other times as it deems advisable and shall transmit to the President and to the Congress not later than two years after the date of the confirmation by the Senate of the Chairperson or the appointment by the President of an acting Chairperson, a final report of its findings and recommendations. Any such report shall include all hearing transcripts, staff studies, and other material used in preparation of the report. The interim and final reports shall be made available to the public upon transmittal. Sixty days after transmission of its final report the Commission shall cease to exist.

(c) Clearance by Federal agencies prior to transmittal of interim or final report

The Commission shall not be required to obtain the clearance of any Federal agency prior to the transmittal of any interim or final report.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 203, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1508; Pub. L. 94–200, title II, § 201, Dec. 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1124.)

AMENDMENTS

1975—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 94–200 changed the time for submission of interim and final reports from one year of the Commission's findings and recommendations and two years after Oct. 28, 1974, to one year and two years respectively after the confirmation by the Senate of the Chairperson or the appointment by the President of an acting Chairperson.

§ 2404. Powers of Commission

(a) Hearings; administration of oaths

The Commission may for the purpose of carrying out this chapter hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission may deem advisable. The Commission may administer oaths of[1] affirmations to witnesses appearing before it.

(b) Implementation authority of members or agents of Commission

When so authorized by the Commission, any member or agent of the Commission may take any action which the Commission is authorized to take by this section.

(c) Request for information from other Federal departments or agencies

The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States in-

[1] So in original. Probably should be "or".

formation necessary to enable it to carry out this chapter. Upon request of the Chairperson of the Commission, the head of such department or agency shall furnish such information to the Commission.

(d) Issuance of subpenas for attendance of witnesses and production of evidence; refusal to obey; contempt proceedings; manner of service of subpenas; service of process

(1) The Commission shall have power to issue subpenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of any evidence that relates to any matter under investigation by the Commission. Such attendance of witnesses and the production of such evidence may be required from any place within the United States at any designated place of hearing within the United States.

(2) If a person issued a subpena under paragraph (1) refuses to obey such subpena or is guilty of contumacy, any court of the United States within the judicial district within which the hearing is conducted or within the judicial district within which such person is found or resides or transacts business may (upon application by the Commission) order such person to appear before the Commission to produce evidence or to give testimony touching the matter under investigation. Any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(3) The subpenas of the Commission shall be served in the manner provided for subpenas issued by a United States district court under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for the United States district courts.

(4) All process of any court to which application may be made under this section may be served in the judicial district wherein the person required to be served resides or may be found.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 204, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1509.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c), was in the original ''this Act'', meaning Pub. L. 93–495, which enacted this chapter (§ 2401 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

§ 2405. Executive Director and additional staff personnel; appointment and compensation; experts and consultants; employment and compensation; audits by Comptroller General

(a) The Commission—

(1) may appoint with the advice and consent of the Senate and fix the compensation of an Executive Director, and such additional staff personnel as he deems necessary, without regard to the provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, but at rates not in excess of the maximum rate for GS–18 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of such title; and

(2) may procure temporary and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized by section 3109 of title 5, but at rates not to exceed $150 a day for individuals.

(b) The Comptroller General is authorized to make detailed audits of the books and records of the Commission, and shall report the results of any such audit to the Commission and to the Congress.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 205, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1510.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The provisions of title 5 governing appointments in the competitive service, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), are classified generally to section 3301 et seq. of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS TO GS–16, 17, OR 18 PAY RATES

References in laws to the rates of pay for GS–16, 17, or 18, or to maximum rates of pay under the General Schedule, to be considered references to rates payable under specified sections of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, see section 529 [title I, § 101(c)(1)] of Pub. L. 101–509, set out in a note under section 5376 of Title 5.

§ 2406. Compensation of members of Commission

(a) A member of the Commission who is an officer or employee of the United States shall serve as a member of the Commission without additional compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties as a member of the Commission.

(b) A member of the Commission who is not otherwise an officer or employee of the United States shall be compensated at a rate of $150 per day when engaged in the performance of his duties as a member of the Commission, and shall also be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties as a member of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 206, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1510.)

§ 2407. Cooperation and assistance of other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities

(a) Each department, agency, and instrumentality of the executive branch of the Government, including independent agencies, is authorized and directed to furnish to the Commission, upon request, such data, reports, and other information as the Commission deems necessary to carry out its functions under this chapter.

(b) The head of any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States may detail such personnel and may furnish such services, with or without reimbursement, as the Commission may request to assist it in carrying out its functions.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 207, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1510.)

§ 2408. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated without fiscal year limitations such sums, not to exceed $2,000,000, as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title II, § 208, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1511.)

CHAPTER 26—DISPOSITION OF ABANDONED MONEY ORDERS AND TRAVELER'S CHECKS

Sec.
2501. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.
2502. Definitions.
2503. State entitlement to escheat or custody.

§ 2501. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose

The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) the books and records of banking and financial organizations and business associations engaged in issuing and selling money orders and traveler's checks do not, as a matter of business practice, show the last known addresses of purchasers of such instruments;

(2) a substantial majority of such purchasers reside in the States where such instruments are purchased;

(3) the States wherein the purchasers of money orders and traveler's checks reside should, as a matter of equity among the several States, be entitled to the proceeds of such instruments in the event of abandonment;

(4) it is a burden on interstate commerce that the proceeds of such instruments are not being distributed to the States entitled thereto; and

(5) the cost of maintaining and retrieving addresses of purchasers of money orders and traveler's checks is an additional burden on interstate commerce since it has been determined that most purchasers reside in the State of purchase of such instruments.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title VI, § 601, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1525.)

APPLICABILITY TO SUMS PAYABLE ON MONEY ORDERS, ETC., DEEMED ABANDONED ON OR AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 1965; EXCEPTION

Section 604 of Pub. L. 93–495 provided that: ''This title [enacting this chapter] shall be applicable to sums payable on money orders, traveler's checks, and similar written instruments deemed abandoned on or after February 1, 1965, except to the extent that such sums have been paid over to a State prior to January 1, 1974.''

§ 2502. Definitions

As used in this chapter—

(1) ''banking organization'' means any bank, trust company, savings bank, safe deposit company, or a private banker engaged in business in the United States;

(2) ''business association'' means any corporation (other than a public corporation), joint stock company, business trust, partnership, or any association for business purposes of two or more individuals; and

(3) ''financial organization'' means any savings and loan association, building and loan association, credit union, or investment company engaged in business in the United States.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title VI, § 602, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1525.)

§ 2503. State entitlement to escheat or custody

Where any sum is payable on a money order, traveler's check, or other similar written instrument (other than a third party bank check) on which a banking or financial organization or a business association is directly liable—

(1) if the books and records of such banking or financial organization or business association show the State in which such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument was purchased, that State shall be entitled exclusively to escheat or take custody of the sum payable on such instrument, to the extent of that State's power under its own laws to escheat or take custody of such sum;

(2) if the books and records of such banking or financial organization or business association do not show the State in which such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument was purchased, the State in which the banking or financial organization or business association has its principal place of business shall be entitled to escheat or take custody of the sum payable on such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument, to the extent of that State's power under its own laws to escheat or take custody of such sum, until another State shall demonstrate by written evidence that it is the State of purchase; or

(3) if the books and records of such banking or financial organizations or business association show the State in which such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument was purchased and the laws of the State of purchase do not provide for the escheat or custodial taking of the sum payable on such instrument, the State in which the banking or financial organization or business association has its principal place of business shall be entitled to escheat or take custody of the sum payable on such money order, traveler's check, or similar written instrument, to the extent of that State's power under its own laws to escheat or take custody of such sum, subject to the right of the State of purchase to recover such sum from the State of principal place of business if and when the law of the State of purchase makes provision for escheat or custodial taking of such sum.

(Pub. L. 93–495, title VI, § 603, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1525.)

CHAPTER 27—REAL ESTATE SETTLEMENT PROCEDURES

Sec.
2601. Congressional findings and purpose.
2602. Definitions.
2603. Uniform settlement statement.
2604. Special information booklets.
2605. Servicing of mortgage loans and administration of escrow accounts.
2606. Exempted transactions.
2607. Prohibition against kickbacks and unearned fees.
2608. Title companies; liability of seller.
2609. Limitation on requirement of advance deposits in escrow accounts.
2610. Prohibition of fees for preparation of truth-in-lending, uniform settlement, and escrow account statements.
2611 to 2613. Repealed.
2614. Jurisdiction of courts; limitations.
2615. Contracts and liens; validity.
2616. State laws unaffected; inconsistent Federal and State provisions.
2617. Authority of Secretary.