

Memorandum for the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, 5 U.S.C. 3345 *et seq.*, it is hereby ordered that:

SECTION 1. *Order of Succession.* Subject to the provisions of section 2 of this memorandum, the following officials of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), in the order listed, shall act as and perform the functions and duties of the office of the Director of OSTP (Director), during any period in which the Director has died, resigned, or otherwise become unable to perform the functions and duties of the office of the Director, until such time as the Director is able to perform the functions and duties of that office:

(a) Associate Director (National Security and International Affairs);

(b) Associate Director (Technology);

(c) Associate Director (Science); and

(d) Associate Director (Environment).

SEC. 2. *Exceptions.*

(a) No individual who is serving in an office listed in section 1 in an acting capacity, by virtue of so serving, shall act as Director pursuant to this memorandum.

(b) No individual listed in section 1 shall act as Director unless that individual is otherwise eligible to so serve under the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this memorandum, the President retains the discretion, to the extent permitted by law, to depart from this memorandum in designating an acting Director.

SEC. 3. *Revocation.* The President's memorandum of December 11, 2002 (Designation of Officers of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to Act as Director), is hereby revoked.

SEC. 4. This memorandum is intended to improve the internal management of the executive branch and is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

SEC. 5. You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

BARACK OBAMA.

DESIGNATION OF OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES SECTION, INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO TO ACT AS THE COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES SECTION

Memorandum of President of the United States, Aug. 31, 2009, 74 F.R. 45533, provided:

Memorandum for the Commissioner of the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered that:

SECTION 1. *Order of Succession.* Subject to the provisions of section 2 of this memorandum, the following officials of the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, in the order listed, shall act as and perform the functions and duties of the office of the Commissioner of the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (Commissioner), during any period in which the Commissioner has died, resigned, or otherwise become unable to perform the functions and duties of the office of Commissioner, until such time as the Commissioner is able to perform the functions and duties of that office:

(a) United States Section Principal Engineer—Operations Department; and

(b) United States Section Principal Engineer—Engineering Department.

SEC. 2. *Exceptions.*

(a) No individual who is serving in an office listed in section 1 in an acting capacity, by virtue of so serving,

shall act as Commissioner pursuant to this memorandum.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this memorandum, the President retains discretion, to the extent permitted by law, to depart from this memorandum in designating an acting Commissioner.

SEC. 3. This memorandum is intended to improve the internal management of the executive branch and is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

SEC. 4. You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

BARACK OBAMA.

§ 3346. Time limitation

(a) Except in the case of a vacancy caused by sickness, the person serving as an acting officer as described under section 3345 may serve in the office—

(1) for no longer than 210 days beginning on the date the vacancy occurs; or

(2) subject to subsection (b), once a first or second nomination for the office is submitted to the Senate, from the date of such nomination for the period that the nomination is pending in the Senate.

(b)(1) If the first nomination for the office is rejected by the Senate, withdrawn, or returned to the President by the Senate, the person may continue to serve as the acting officer for no more than 210 days after the date of such rejection, withdrawal, or return.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a second nomination for the office is submitted to the Senate after the rejection, withdrawal, or return of the first nomination, the person serving as the acting officer may continue to serve—

(A) until the second nomination is confirmed; or

(B) for no more than 210 days after the second nomination is rejected, withdrawn, or returned.

(c) If a vacancy occurs during an adjournment of the Congress sine die, the 210-day period under subsection (a) shall begin on the date that the Senate first reconvenes.

(Added Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §151(b), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-612.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3346, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 426, provided for details to subordinate offices, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §151(b), (d)(1), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-611, 2681-616, effective 30 days after Oct. 21, 1998. See section 3345 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 30 days after Oct. 21, 1998, and applicable to any office that becomes vacant after such effective date, with certain exceptions, see section 151(d) of Pub. L. 105-277, set out as a note under section 3345 of this title.

§ 3347. Exclusivity

(a) Sections 3345 and 3346 are the exclusive means for temporarily authorizing an acting official to perform the functions and duties of any office of an Executive agency (including the Executive Office of the President, and other than

the Government Accountability Office) for which appointment is required to be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, unless—

(1) a statutory provision expressly—

(A) authorizes the President, a court, or the head of an Executive department, to designate an officer or employee to perform the functions and duties of a specified office temporarily in an acting capacity; or

(B) designates an officer or employee to perform the functions and duties of a specified office temporarily in an acting capacity; or

(2) the President makes an appointment to fill a vacancy in such office during the recess of the Senate pursuant to clause 3 of section 2 of article II of the United States Constitution.

(b) Any statutory provision providing general authority to the head of an Executive agency (including the Executive Office of the President, and other than the Government Accountability Office) to delegate duties statutorily vested in that agency head to, or to reassign duties among, officers or employees of such Executive agency, is not a statutory provision to which subsection (a)(1) applies.

(Added Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §151(b), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-613; amended Pub. L. 106-31, title V, §5011, May 21, 1999, 113 Stat. 112; Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3347, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 426, provided for Presidential authority relating to details, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §151(b), (d)(1), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-611, 2681-616, effective 30 days after Oct. 21, 1998. See section 3345 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Pub. L. 108-271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office” in introductory provisions of subsec. (a) and in subsec. (b).

1999—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-31 substituted “subsection (a)(1)” for “subsection (a)(2)”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 30 days after Oct. 21, 1998, and applicable to any office that becomes vacant after such effective date, with certain exceptions, see section 151(d) of Pub. L. 105-277, set out as a note under section 3345 of this title.

§ 3348. Vacant office

(a) In this section—

(1) the term “action” includes any agency action as defined under section 551(13); and

(2) the term “function or duty” means any function or duty of the applicable office that—

(A)(i) is established by statute; and

(ii) is required by statute to be performed by the applicable officer (and only that officer); or

(B)(i)(I) is established by regulation; and

(II) is required by such regulation to be performed by the applicable officer (and only that officer); and

(ii) includes a function or duty to which clause (i)(I) and (II) applies, and the applicable regulation is in effect at any time during

the 180-day period preceding the date on which the vacancy occurs.

(b) Unless an officer or employee is performing the functions and duties in accordance with sections 3345, 3346, and 3347, if an officer of an Executive agency (including the Executive Office of the President, and other than the Government Accountability Office) whose appointment to office is required to be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, dies, resigns, or is otherwise unable to perform the functions and duties of the office—

(1) the office shall remain vacant; and

(2) in the case of an office other than the office of the head of an Executive agency (including the Executive Office of the President, and other than the Government Accountability Office), only the head of such Executive agency may perform any function or duty of such office.

(c) If the last day of any 210-day period under section 3346 is a day on which the Senate is not in session, the second day the Senate is next in session and receiving nominations shall be deemed to be the last day of such period.

(d)(1) An action taken by any person who is not acting under section 3345, 3346, or 3347, or as provided by subsection (b), in the performance of any function or duty of a vacant office to which this section and sections 3346, 3347, 3349, 3349a, 3349b, and 3349c apply shall have no force or effect.

(2) An action that has no force or effect under paragraph (1) may not be ratified.

(e) This section shall not apply to—

(1) the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board;

(2) the General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority;

(3) any Inspector General appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;

(4) any Chief Financial Officer appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; or

(5) an office of an Executive agency (including the Executive Office of the President, and other than the Government Accountability Office) if a statutory provision expressly prohibits the head of the Executive agency from performing the functions and duties of such office.

(Added Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §151(b), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-613; amended Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3348, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 426; Pub. L. 100-398, §7(b), Aug. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 988, provided for time limitations relating to details, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, §151(b), (d)(1), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-611, 2681-616, effective 30 days after Oct. 21, 1998. See section 3346 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 108-271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office” in two places.

Subsec. (e)(5). Pub. L. 108-271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office”.