

**(c) Exemption**

In the case of a program for which the recipient of a grant, contract, or other financial assistance is specified by statute to be, or has customarily been, a State or an interstate fishery commission, such financial assistance may be provided by the Secretary to that recipient on a sole-source basis, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

**(d) “Nondiscretionary assistance program” defined**

In this section, the term “nondiscretionary assistance program” means any program for providing financial assistance—

(1) under which the amount of funding for, and the intended recipient of, the financial assistance is specified by Congress; or

(2) the recipients of which have customarily been a State or an interstate fishery commission.

(Pub. L. 102-567, title IV, §404, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4292.)

**§ 1540. Cooperative agreements**

The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, may enter into cooperative agreements and other financial agreements with any nonprofit organization to—

(1) aid and promote scientific and educational activities to foster public understanding of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or its programs; and

(2) solicit private donations for the support of such activities.

(Pub. L. 102-567, title IV, §406, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4293.)

**§ 1541. Administrative Law Judges**

Notwithstanding section 559 of title 5, with respect to any marine resource conservation law or regulation administered by the Secretary of Commerce acting through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, all adjudicatory functions which are required by chapter 5 of title 5 to be performed by an Administrative Law Judge may be performed by the United States Coast Guard on a reimbursable basis. Should the United States Coast Guard require the detail of an Administrative Law Judge to perform any of these functions, it may request such temporary or occasional assistance from the Office of Personnel Management pursuant to section 3344 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 105-160, §10, Mar. 6, 1998, 112 Stat. 27.)

**CHAPTER 41—CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION**

**SUBCHAPTER I—CONSUMER CREDIT COST DISCLOSURE**

**PART A—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- Sec.  
1601. Congressional findings and declaration of purpose.  
    (a) Informed use of credit.  
    (b) Terms of personal property leases.  
1602. Definitions and rules of construction.

- Sec.  
1603. Exempted transactions.  
1604. Disclosure guidelines.  
    (a) Promulgation, contents, etc., of regulations.  
    (b) Model disclosure forms and clauses; publication, criteria, compliance, etc.  
    (c) Procedures applicable for adoption of model forms and clauses.  
    (d) Effective dates of regulations containing new disclosure requirements.  
    (f) Exemption authority.  
    (g) Waiver for certain borrowers.  
1605. Determination of finance charge.  
    (a) “Finance charge” defined.  
    (b) Life, accident, or health insurance premiums included in finance charge.  
    (c) Property damage and liability insurance premiums included in finance charge.  
    (d) Items exempted from computation of finance charge in all credit transactions.  
    (e) Items exempted from computation of finance charge in extensions of credit secured by an interest in real property.  
    (f) Tolerances for accuracy.  
1606. Determination of annual percentage rate.  
    (a) “Annual percentage rate” defined.  
    (b) Computation of rate of finance charges for balances within a specified range.  
    (c) Allowable tolerances for purposes of compliance with disclosure requirements.  
    (d) Use of rate tables or charts having allowable variance from determined rates.  
    (e) Authorization of tolerances in determining annual percentage rates.  
1607. Administrative enforcement.  
    (a) Enforcing agencies.  
    (b) Violations of this subchapter deemed violations of pre-existing statutory requirements; additional agency powers.  
    (c) Federal Trade Commission as overall enforcing agency.  
    (d) Rules and regulations.  
    (e) Adjustment of finance charges; procedures applicable, coverage, criteria, etc.  
1608. Views of other agencies.  
1609. Repealed.  
1610. Effect on other laws.  
    (a) Inconsistent provisions; procedures applicable for determination.  
    (b) State credit charge statutes.  
    (c) Disclosure as evidence.  
    (d) Contract or other obligations under State or Federal law.  
    (e) Certain credit and charge card application and solicitation disclosure provisions.  
1611. Criminal liability for willful and knowing violation.  
1612. Effect on government agencies.  
    (a) Consultation requirements respecting compliance of credit instruments issued to participating creditor.  
    (b) Inapplicability of Federal civil or criminal penalties to Federal, State, and local agencies.  
    (c) Inapplicability of Federal civil or criminal penalties to participating creditor where violating instrument issued by United States.