

2006—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-435 substituted “Postal Regulatory Commission” for “Postal Rate Commission”.

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

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-220 inserted “in the Smithsonian Institution,” before “and in the Government Printing Office”.

1995—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-1 substituted “units of the judicial branch” for “units of the legislative and judicial branches” and inserted “Government Printing Office, the General Accounting Office, and the” before “Library of Congress”.

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-256, §5(a), inserted age requirement of at least 40 years of age, and “personnel actions” after “except”.

Subsecs. (f), (g). Pub. L. 95-256, §5(e), added subsecs. (f) and (g).

#### CHANGE OF NAME

“Government Publishing Office” substituted for “Government Printing Office” in subsec. (a) on authority of section 1301(b) of Pub. L. 113-235, set out as a note preceding section 301 of Title 44, Public Printing and Documents.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-2 effective as if enacted May 28, 2007, and applicable to certain claims of discrimination in compensation pending on or after that date, see section 6 of Pub. L. 111-2, set out as a note under section 2000e-5 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-220, title III, §341(d), Aug. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1092, which provided that amendments made by subsections (a), (b), and (c) (amending this section, section 791 of this title, and section 2000e-16 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare) would take effect on Aug. 7, 1998, and would be applicable to and may be raised in any administrative or judicial claim or action brought before Aug. 7, 1998, but pending on such date, and any administrative or judicial claim or action brought after Aug. 7, 1998, regardless of whether the claim or action arose prior to such date, if the claim or action was brought within the applicable statute of limitations, was repealed by Pub. L. 113-128, title V, §511(a), July 22, 2014, 128 Stat. 1705.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1995 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-1 effective 1 year after Jan. 23, 1995, see section 1311(d) of Title 2, The Congress.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 95-256, §5(f), Apr. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 192, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 8335 and 8339 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and repealing section 3322 of Title 5] shall take effect on September 30, 1978, except that section 15(g) of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended by subsection (e) of this section [subsec. (g) of this section], shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act [Apr. 6, 1978].”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective May 1, 1974, see section 29(a) of Pub. L. 93-259, set out as an Effective Date of 1974 Amendment note under section 202 of this title.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

“Equal Employment Opportunity Commission” substituted for “Civil Service Commission” in subsecs. (b) and (g) pursuant to Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1978, §2, 43 F.R. 19807, 92 Stat. 3781, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, which trans-

ferred all functions vested by this section in Civil Service Commission to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, effective Jan. 1, 1979, as provided by section 1-101 of Ex. Ord. No. 12106, Dec. 28, 1978, 44 F.R. 1053.

#### § 634. Authorization of appropriations

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 90-202, §17, formerly §16, Dec. 15, 1967, 81 Stat. 608; renumbered and amended Pub. L. 93-259, §28(a)(5), (b)(1), Apr. 8, 1974, 88 Stat. 74; Pub. L. 95-256, §7, Apr. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 193.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-256 struck out “, not in excess of \$5,000,000 for any fiscal year,” after “sums”.

1974—Pub. L. 93-259, §28(a)(5), increased appropriations authorization to \$5,000,000 from \$3,000,000.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1974 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 93-259 effective May 1, 1974, see section 29(a) of Pub. L. 93-259, set out as a note under section 202 of this title.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions relating to age discrimination administration and enforcement vested by this section in Secretary of Labor or Civil Service Commission transferred to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission by Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1978, §2, 43 F.R. 19807, 92 Stat. 3781, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, effective Jan. 1, 1979, as provided by section 1-101 of Ex. Ord. No. 12106, Dec. 28, 1978, 44 F.R. 1053.

### CHAPTER 15—OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

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### § 651. Congressional statement of findings and declaration of purpose and policy

(a) The Congress finds that personal injuries and illnesses arising out of work situations impose a substantial burden upon, and are a hindrance to, interstate commerce in terms of lost production, wage loss, medical expenses, and disability compensation payments.

(b) The Congress declares it to be its purpose and policy, through the exercise of its powers to regulate commerce among the several States and with foreign nations and to provide for the general welfare, to assure so far as possible every working man and woman in the Nation safe and healthful working conditions and to preserve our human resources—

(1) by encouraging employers and employees in their efforts to reduce the number of occupational safety and health hazards at their places of employment, and to stimulate employers and employees to institute new and to perfect existing programs for providing safe and healthful working conditions;

(2) by providing that employers and employees have separate but dependent responsibilities and rights with respect to achieving safe and healthful working conditions;

(3) by authorizing the Secretary of Labor to set mandatory occupational safety and health standards applicable to businesses affecting interstate commerce, and by creating an Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for carrying out adjudicatory functions under this chapter;

(4) by building upon advances already made through employer and employee initiative for providing safe and healthful working conditions;

(5) by providing for research in the field of occupational safety and health, including the psychological factors involved, and by developing innovative methods, techniques, and approaches for dealing with occupational safety and health problems;

(6) by exploring ways to discover latent diseases, establishing causal connections between diseases and work in environmental conditions, and conducting other research relating to health problems, in recognition of the fact that occupational health standards present problems often different from those involved in occupational safety;

(7) by providing medical criteria which will assure insofar as practicable that no employee will suffer diminished health, functional capacity, or life expectancy as a result of his work experience;

(8) by providing for training programs to increase the number and competence of personnel engaged in the field of occupational safety and health;

(9) by providing for the development and promulgation of occupational safety and health standards;

(10) by providing an effective enforcement program which shall include a prohibition against giving advance notice of any inspection and sanctions for any individual violating this prohibition;

(11) by encouraging the States to assume the fullest responsibility for the administration and enforcement of their occupational safety and health laws by providing grants to the States to assist in identifying their needs and responsibilities in the area of occupational safety and health, to develop plans in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, to improve the administration and enforcement of State occupational safety and health laws, and to conduct experimental and demonstration projects in connection therewith;

(12) by providing for appropriate reporting procedures with respect to occupational safety and health which procedures will help achieve the objectives of this chapter and accurately describe the nature of the occupational safety and health problem;

(13) by encouraging joint labor-management efforts to reduce injuries and disease arising out of employment.

(Pub. L. 91-596, § 2, Dec. 29, 1970, 84 Stat. 1590.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), (11), and (12), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 91-596, Dec. 29, 1970, 84 Stat. 1590, as amended. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under this section and Tables.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 91-596, § 34, Dec. 29, 1970, 84 Stat. 1620, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter and section 3142-1 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, amending section 553 of this title, sections 5108, 5314, 5315, and 7902 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, sections 633 and 636 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, section 1114 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and section 1421 of former Title 49, Transportation, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 1114 of Title 18] shall take effect one hundred and twenty days after the date of its enactment [Dec. 29, 1970].”

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-197, § 1, July 16, 1998, 112 Stat. 638, provided that: “This Act [amending section 670 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Occupational Safety and Health Administration Compliance Assistance Authorization Act of 1998’.”

#### SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 91-596, § 1, Dec. 29, 1970, 84 Stat. 1590, provided: “That this Act [enacting this chapter and section 3142-1 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, amending section 553 of this title, sections 5108, 5314, 5315, and 7902 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, sections 633 and 636 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, section 1114 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and section 1421 of former Title 49, Transportation, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 1114 of Title 18] may be cited as the ‘Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970’.”

### § 652. Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter—