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§ 3001. Purposes

The purposes of this chapter are—

- (1) to approve the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System;
- (2) to implement in United States law the nomenclature established internationally by the Convention; and
- (3) to provide that the Convention shall be treated as a trade agreement obligation of the United States.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title I, §1201, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1147.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this subtitle”, meaning subtitle B (§§1201 to 1217) of title I of Pub. L. 100-418, which enacted this chapter, amended sections 58c, 1312, 1315, 1321, 1337, 1466, 1498, 2011, 2138, 2253, 2434, 2437, 2481, 2483, 2581, 2702, and 2703 of this title, sections 511r, 1444, 1783, and 1784 of Title 7, Agriculture, section 374 of Title 10, Armed Forces, section 301 of Title 13, Census, sections 1274, 2064, 2066, 2602, and 2612 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, sections 1606a and 3912 of Title 16, Conservation, sections 41 and 951 of Title 21, Food and Drugs, section 5059 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse, sections 7652 and 9504 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code, section 1295 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure, and section 98h-4 of Title 50, War and National Defense, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1202, 3001, and 3005 of this title, and amended provisions set out as notes preceding section 1202 and under section 2112 of this title. For complete classification of subtitle B to the Code, see Tables.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 1217 of Pub. L. 100-418 provided that:

“(a) **ACCESSION TO CONVENTION AND PROVISIONS OTHER THAN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HARMONIZED TARIFF SCHEDULE.**—Except as provided in subsection (b), the provisions of this subtitle [subtitle B (§§1201-1217) of title I of Pub. L. 100-418, see References in Text note above] take effect on the date of the enactment of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 [Aug. 23, 1988].

“(b) **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HARMONIZED TARIFF SCHEDULE.**—The effective date of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule is January 1, 1989. On such date—

- “(1) the amendments made by sections 1204(a), 1213, 1214, and 1215 [amending sections 58c, 1312, 1315, 1321, 1337, 1466, 1498, 2011, 2138, 2253, 2434, 2437, 2481, 2483, 2581, 2702, and 2703 of this title, sections 511r, 1444,

1783, and 1784 of Title 7, Agriculture, section 374 of Title 10, Armed Forces, section 301 of Title 13, Census, sections 1274, 2064, 2066, 2602, and 2612 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, sections 1606a and 3912 of Title 16, Conservation, sections 41 and 951 of Title 21, Food and Drugs, section 5059 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse, sections 7652 and 9504 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code, section 1295 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure, and section 98h-4 of Title 50, War and National Defense, and amending provisions set out as notes preceding section 1202 and under section 2112 of this title] take effect and apply with respect to articles entered on or after such date; and
“(2) sections 1204(c), 1211, and 1212 [enacting sections 3004(c), 3011, and 3012 of this title] take effect.”

§ 3002. Definitions

As used in this chapter:

(1) The term “Commission” means the United States International Trade Commission.

(2) The term “Convention” means the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, done at Brussels on June 14, 1983, and the Protocol thereto, done at Brussels on June 24, 1986, submitted to the Congress on June 15, 1987.

(3) The term “entered” means entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, in the customs territory of the United States.

(4) The term “Federal agency” means any establishment in the executive branch of the United States Government.

(5) The term “old Schedules” means title I of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1202) as in effect on the day before the effective date of the amendment to such title under section 1204(a).

(6) The term “technical rectifications” means rectifications of an editorial character or minor technical or clerical changes which do not affect the substance or meaning of the text, such as—

- (A) errors in spelling, numbering, or punctuation;
- (B) errors in indentation;
- (C) errors (including inadvertent omissions) in cross-references to headings or sub-headings or notes; and
- (D) other clerical or typographical errors.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title I, §1202, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1147.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this subtitle”, meaning subtitle B (§§1201 to 1217) of title I of Pub. L. 100-418, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this subtitle to the Code, see References in Text note set out under section 3001 of this title and Tables.

Title I of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1202) as in effect on the day before the effective date of the amendment to such title under section 1204(a), referred to in par. (5), is title I of act June 17, 1930, ch. 497, 46 Stat. 590, as in effect on the day before Jan. 1, 1989. Title I of the Tariff Act of 1930 which comprised the Tariff Schedules of the United States was not set out in the Code.

§ 3003. Congressional approval of United States accession to the Convention

(a) Congressional approval

The Congress approves the accession by the United States of America to the Convention.

(b) Acceptance of final legal text of Convention by President

The President may accept for the United States the final legal instruments embodying the Convention. The President shall submit a copy of each final instrument to the Congress on the date it becomes available.

(c) Unspecified private remedies not created

Neither the entry into force with respect to the United States of the Convention nor the enactment of this chapter may be construed as creating any private right of action or remedy for which provision is not explicitly made under this chapter or under other laws of the United States.

(d) Termination

The provisions of section 2135(a) of this title do not apply to the Convention.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title I, §1203, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1148.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (c), was in the original "this subtitle", meaning subtitle B (§§1201 to 1217) of title I of Pub. L. 100-418, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this subtitle to the Code, see References in Text note set out under section 3001 of this title and Tables.

§ 3004. Enactment of Harmonized Tariff Schedule**(a) Omitted****(b) Modifications to Harmonized Tariff Schedule**

At the earliest practicable date after August 23, 1988, the President shall—

(1) proclaim such modifications to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule as are consistent with the standards applied in converting the old Schedules into the format of the Convention, as reflected in such Publication No. 2030 and Supplement No. 1,¹ thereto, and as are necessary or appropriate to implement—

(A) the future outstanding staged rate reductions authorized by the Congress in—

(i) the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) and the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) to reflect the tariff reductions that resulted from the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and

(ii) the United States-Israel Free Trade Area Implementation Act of 1985 [19 U.S.C. 2112 note] to reflect the tariff reduction resulting from the United States-Israel Free Trade Area Agreement,

(B) the applicable provisions of—

- (i) statutes enacted,
- (ii) executive actions taken, and
- (iii) final judicial decisions rendered,

after January 1, 1988, and before January 1, 1989, and

(C) such technical rectifications as the President considers necessary; and

(2) take such action as the President considers necessary to bring trade agreements to which the United States is a party into conformity with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

¹ So in original.

(c) Status of Harmonized Tariff Schedule

(1) The following shall be considered to be statutory provisions of law for all purposes:

(A) The provisions of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule as enacted by this chapter.

(B) Each statutory amendment to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

(C) Each modification or change made to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule by the President under authority of law (including section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974 [19 U.S.C. 2483]).

(2) Neither the enactment of this chapter nor the subsequent enactment of any amendment to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule, unless such subsequent enactment otherwise provides, may be construed as limiting the authority of the President—

(A) to effect the import treatment necessary or appropriate to carry out, modify, withdraw, suspend, or terminate, in whole or in part, trade agreements; or

(B) to take such other actions through the modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction as may be necessary or appropriate under the authority of the President.

(3) If a rate of duty established in column 1 by the President by proclamation or Executive order is higher than the existing rate of duty in column 2, the President may by proclamation or Executive order increase such existing rate to the higher rate.

(4) If a rate of duty is suspended or terminated by the President by proclamation or Executive order and the proclamation or Executive order does not specify the rate that is to apply in lieu of the suspended or terminated rate, the last rate of duty that applied prior to the suspended or terminated rate shall be the effective² rate of duty.

(d) Interim informational use of Harmonized Tariff Schedule classifications

Each—

(1) proclamation issued by the President;

(2) public notice issued by the Commission or other Federal agency; and

(3) finding, determination, order, recommendation, or other decision made by the Commission or other Federal agency;

during the period between August 23, 1988, and January 1, 1989, shall, if the proclamation, notice, or decision contains a reference to the tariff classification of any article, include, for informational purposes, a reference to the classification of that article under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title I, §1204, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1148.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Harmonized Tariff Schedule, referred to in text, is not set out in the Code. See Publication of Harmonized Tariff Schedule note set out under section 1202 of this title.

The Trade Act of 1974, referred to in subsec. (b)(1)(A)(i), is Pub. L. 93-618, Jan. 3, 1975, 88 Stat. 1978, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter

² So in original. Probably should be "effective".