

SUBCHAPTER VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS AND AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

PART A—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

§ 5431. Repealed. Pub. L. 103-382, title III, § 391(I), Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 4023

Section, Pub. L. 101-589, title VII, §701, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2910, authorized appropriations to National Science Foundation.

PART B—DEFINITIONS

§ 5441. Repealed. Pub. L. 103-382, title III, § 391(I), Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 4023

Section, Pub. L. 101-589, title VII, §711, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2911, defined terms used in this chapter.

CHAPTER 65—NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- Sec. 5501. Findings and policy.
  - (a) Findings.
  - (b) Policy.
- 5502. Definitions.
- 5503. Office of Environmental Education.
  - (a) Establishment.
  - (b) Duties and functions.
  - (c) Director and staff.
- 5504. Environmental Education and Training Program.
  - (a) Establishment.
  - (b) Functions and activities.
  - (c) Grants.
  - (d) Eligibility.
- 5505. Environmental education grants.
  - (a) Cooperative agreements and grants.
  - (b) Eligible activities.
  - (c) Priority projects.
  - (d) Scope of program and implementing regulations.
  - (e) Solicitation notices.
  - (f) Applications.
  - (g) Performance of projects.
  - (h) Matching requirements.
  - (i) Limitations on grants.
- 5506. Environmental internships and fellowships.
  - (a) Postsecondary students and in-service teachers.
  - (b) Purpose.
  - (c) Minimum number of internships and fellowships.
  - (d) Management of programs; eligible agencies.
  - (e) Length of internships and fellowships; funding.
  - (f) Eligible individuals.
  - (g) Applications.
  - (h) Geographic, cultural, and minority representation.
- 5507. Environmental education awards.
  - (a) National awards.
  - (b) Required awards.
  - (c) Nomination by Environmental Education Advisory Council.
  - (d) President's Environmental Youth Awards.
  - (e) Cash awards for elementary and secondary education teachers and local educational agencies.
- 5508. Environmental Education Advisory Council and Task Force.
  - (a) Establishment.
  - (b) Advisory Council; duties; members; terms of office; compensation; termination.
  - (c) Federal Task Force on Environmental Education; duties; members.

- Sec. 5509. National Environmental Education and Training Foundation.
  - (d) Reports.
  - (a) Establishment and purposes.
  - (b) Board of Directors.
  - (c) Rights and obligations of Foundation.
  - (d) Conditions on donations.
  - (e) Administrative services and support.
  - (f) Omitted.
  - (g) Volunteer status.
  - (h) Audits and petition of Attorney General for equitable relief.
  - (i) United States release from liability.
  - (j) Amendment and repeal.
- 5510. Authorization.
  - (a) Authorization of appropriations.
  - (b) Limitations.
  - (c) Availability of funds to National Environmental Education and Training Foundation.

§ 5501. Findings and policy

(a) Findings

The Congress finds that—

(1) Threats to human health and environmental quality are increasingly complex, involving a wide range of conventional and toxic contaminants in the air and water and on the land.

(2) There is growing evidence of international environmental problems, such as global warming, ocean pollution, and declines in species diversity, and that these problems pose serious threats to human health and the environment on a global scale.

(3) Environmental problems represent as significant a threat to the quality of life and the economic vitality of urban areas as they do the natural balance of rural areas.

(4) Effective response to complex environmental problems requires understanding of the natural and built environment, awareness of environmental problems and their origins (including those in urban areas), and the skills to solve these problems.

(5) Development of effective solutions to environmental problems and effective implementation of environmental programs requires a well educated and trained, professional work force.

(6) Current Federal efforts to inform and educate the public concerning the natural and built environment and environmental problems are not adequate.

(7) Existing Federal support for development and training of professionals in environmental fields is not sufficient.

(8) The Federal Government, acting through the Environmental Protection Agency, should work with local education institutions, State education agencies, not-for-profit educational and environmental organizations, noncommercial educational broadcasting entities, and private sector interests to support development of curricula, special projects, and other activities, to increase understanding of the natural and built environment and to improve awareness of environmental problems.

(9) The Federal Government, acting through the coordinated efforts of its agencies and with the leadership of the Environmental Protection Agency, should work with local edu-

cation institutions, State education agencies, not-for-profit educational and environmental organizations, noncommercial educational broadcasting entities, and private sector interests to develop programs to provide increased emphasis and financial resources for the purpose of attracting students into environmental engineering and assisting them in pursuing the programs to complete the advanced technical education required to provide effective problem solving capabilities for complex environmental issues.

(10) Federal natural resource agencies such as the United States Forest Service have a wide range of environmental expertise and a long history of cooperation with educational institutions and technology transfer that can assist in furthering the purposes of the<sup>1</sup> chapter.

#### (b) Policy

It is the policy of the United States to establish and support a program of education on the environment, for students and personnel working with students, through activities in schools, institutions of higher education, and related educational activities, and to encourage post-secondary students to pursue careers related to the environment.

(Pub. L. 101-619, §2, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3325.)

#### SHORT TITLE

Section 1(a) of Pub. L. 101-619 provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'National Environmental Education Act'."

#### § 5502. Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter, the term—

(1) "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

(2) "Agency" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency;

(3) "Federal agency" or "agency of the United States" means any department, agency or other instrumentality of the Federal Government, any independent agency or establishment of the Federal Government including any Government corporation;

(4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Education;

(5) "local educational agency" means any education agency as defined in section 8801 of this title) and shall include any tribal education agency;

(6) "not-for-profit" organization<sup>1</sup> means an organization, association, or institution described in section 501(c)(3) of title 26, which is exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of section 501(a) of title 26;

(7) "noncommercial education broadcasting entities" means any noncommercial educational broadcasting station (and/or its legal nonprofit affiliates) as defined and licensed by the Federal Communications Commission;

(8) "tribal education agency" means a school or community college which is controlled by

an Indian tribe, band, or nation, including any Alaska Native village, which is recognized as eligible for special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians and which is not administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

(9) "Federal natural resource management agencies" means the United States Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service;

(10) "environmental engineering" means the discipline within engineering and science concerned with the development and application of scientific and technical solutions to protecting the aquatic and atmospheric environment, including, but not limited to, all phases of water resources planning, water supply, water treatment, air pollution characterization and control, remediation of hazardous substances, environmental transport of contaminants in surface and ground water and atmosphere, and methods for assessment and control of pollution;

(11) "environmental education" and "environmental education and training" mean educational activities and training activities involving elementary, secondary, and post-secondary students, as such terms are defined in the State in which they reside, and environmental education personnel, but does not include technical training activities directed toward environmental management professionals or activities primarily directed toward the support of noneducational research and development;

(12) "Foundation" means the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation established pursuant to section 5509 of this title; and

(13) "Board of Directors" means the Board of Directors of the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation.

(Pub. L. 101-619, §3, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3326; Pub. L. 103-382, title III, §391(m), Oct. 20, 1994, 108 Stat. 4023.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1994—Par. (5). Pub. L. 103-382 substituted "local educational agency" for "local education agency" and reference to section 8801 of this title for reference to section 198 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 5509 of this title.

#### § 5503. Office of Environmental Education

##### (a) Establishment

The Administrator shall establish an Office of Environmental Education within the Environmental Protection Agency.

##### (b) Duties and functions

The Office of Environmental Education shall—

(1) develop and support programs and related efforts, in consultation and coordination with other Federal agencies, to improve understanding of the natural and built environment, and the relationships between humans and their environment, including the global aspects of environmental problems;

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be "this".

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be "not-for-profit organization".