

official or office of Department of State and references to such officials or offices deemed to refer to Secretary of State or Department of State, as appropriate, see section 2651a of this title and section 161(d) of Pub. L. 103-236, set out as a note under section 2651a of this title.

§ 297. Acquisition of property by lease

The authority granted to acquire sites and buildings by purchase or otherwise shall include authority to acquire leaseholds.

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 6, 44 Stat. 405; June 19, 1952, ch. 446, § 4, 66 Stat. 140; Pub. L. 95-105, title I, § 106(b), Aug. 17, 1977, 91 Stat. 845.)

AMENDMENTS

1977—Pub. L. 95-105 struck out “of not less than ten years” after “acquire leaseholds”.

1952—Act June 19, 1952, provided for leaseholds of not less than 10 years.

§ 297a. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, which related to leaseholds of not less than ten years, was from the Department of State Appropriation Act, 1953, act July 10, 1952, ch. 651, title I, 66 Stat. 550, and was not repeated in subsequent appropriation acts. Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

1951—Oct. 22, 1951, ch. 533, title I, 65 Stat. 577.

1950—Sept. 6, 1950, ch. 896, ch. III, title I, 64 Stat. 610.

1949—July 20, 1949, ch. 354, title I, 63 Stat. 449.

§ 298. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, act May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 7, 44 Stat. 405, repealed act Feb. 17, 1911, ch. 105, 36 Stat. 917, incorporated as section 133 of this title, with a provision that the repeal “shall not invalidate appropriations already made under the authority of such Act.”

§ 299. Short title

This chapter may be cited as the “Foreign Service Buildings Act, 1926.”

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 8, 44 Stat. 405.)

§ 300. Dispositions of property; damage payments; acceptance of gifts or services

(a) Authority of Secretary of State

The Secretary of State is authorized—

(1) to sell, exchange, lease, or license any property or property interest acquired under this chapter, or under other authority, for use of diplomatic and consular establishments in foreign countries or in the United States pursuant to section 4304(b)(5) of this title,

(2) to receive payment in whatever form, or in kind, he determines to be in the interest of the United States for damage to or destruction of property acquired for use of diplomatic and consular establishments abroad, and the contents of such buildings, and

(3) to accept on behalf of the United States gifts of property or services of any kind made by will or otherwise for the purposes of this chapter.

(b) Disposition of proceeds; report to Congress

Proceeds derived from dispositions, payments, or gifts under subsection (a) of this section

shall, notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, be applied toward acquisition, construction, or other purposes authorized by this chapter or held in the Foreign Service Buildings Fund, as in the judgment of the Secretary may best serve the Government's interest: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall report all such transactions annually to the Congress with the budget estimates of the Department of State.

(c) Proceeds from sale of furniture, furnishings, and equipment

Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, proceeds from the disposition of furniture, furnishings, and equipment from diplomatic and consular establishments in foreign countries shall be deposited into the Foreign Service Building Fund to be available for obligation or expenditure as directed by the Secretary.

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, § 9, as added Apr. 19, 1945, ch. 78, 59 Stat. 53; amended Pub. L. 88-94, § 2(e), Aug. 12, 1963, 77 Stat. 122; Pub. L. 89-636, § 3, Oct. 10, 1966, 80 Stat. 882; Pub. L. 99-399, title IV, § 401(h)(2), Aug. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 863; Pub. L. 101-246, title I, § 116(c), Feb. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 25.)

AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 101-246 inserted before comma at end “or in the United States pursuant to section 4304(b)(5) of this title”.

1986—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 99-399 added subsec. (c).

1966—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 89-636 substituted provisions designated as subsec. (a) and authorizing the Secretary to sell, exchange, lease, or license any property or property interest acquired under this chapter, to receive payment in whatever form, or in kind, for damage to or destruction of buildings or their contents, and to accept gifts of property or services for former provisions which authorized the Secretary, when he found it to be in the Government's interest, to sell buildings and grounds acquired for use of diplomatic and consular establishments in foreign countries.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 89-636 substituted provisions designated as subsec. (b) and providing for application of proceeds derived from dispositions, payments, or gifts under subsec. (a) toward acquisition, construction, or other purposes authorized by this chapter, as in the judgment of the Secretary may best serve the Government's interest, for former provision for application of proceeds of sales toward purchase and construction, furnishing, and preservation of other properties.

1963—Pub. L. 88-94 struck out “with the concurrence of the Foreign Service Buildings Commission,” after “Government,” and “, as in the judgment of the Commission may best serve the Government's interest” after “Foreign Service building fund”.

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective May 15, 2000, of provisions in subsec. (b) of this section relating to the Secretary reporting transactions annually to Congress, see section 3003 of Pub. L. 104-66, as amended, set out as a note under section 1113 of Title 31, Money and Finance, and page 129 of House Document No. 103-7.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 2715c, 4304 of this title.

§ 301. Lease or rental arrangements of not less than ten years; approval by Secretary; delegation of authority; information to Congress

(a) Leases

Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or any other Act, no lease or other rental ar-

rangement for a period of less than ten years, and requiring an annual payment in excess of \$50,000 shall be entered into by the Secretary of State for the purpose of renting or leasing offices, buildings, grounds, or living quarters for the use of the Foreign Service abroad, unless such lease or other rental arrangement is approved by the Secretary. The Secretary may delegate his authority under this section only to the Deputy Under Secretary of State for Administration or to the Director of the Office of Foreign Buildings. The Secretary shall keep the Congress fully and currently informed with respect to leases or other rental arrangements approved under this section.

(b) Advance payments for long-term leases and lease purchase

The Secretary may, subject to the availability of appropriations, make advance payments for long-term leases and lease-purchase agreements, if the Secretary or his designee determines, in each case, that such payments are in the interest of the United States Government in carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, §10, as added Pub. L. 89-636, §4, Oct. 10, 1966, 80 Stat. 882; amended Pub. L. 102-138, title I, §115(a), (b), Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 655.)

AMENDMENTS

1991—Pub. L. 102-138 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, substituted “\$50,000” for “\$25,000,” and added subsec. (b).

AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF STATE

Except as otherwise provided, Secretary of State to have and exercise any authority vested by law in any official or office of Department of State and references to such officials or offices deemed to refer to Secretary of State or Department of State, as appropriate, see section 2651a of this title and section 161(d) of Pub. L. 103-236, set out as a note under section 2651a of this title.

§ 302. Award of contracts

(a) Eligibility limitation for construction, etc., abroad

Eligibility for award of contracts under this chapter or of any other contract by the Secretary of State, including lease-back or other agreements, the purpose of which is to obtain the construction, alteration, or repair of buildings and grounds abroad, when estimated to exceed \$5,000,000, including any contract alternatives or options, shall be limited, after a determination that adequate competition will be obtained thereby, to (1) American-owned bidders and (2) bidders from countries which permit or agree to permit substantially equal access to American bidders for comparable diplomatic and consular building projects, except that participation may be permitted by or limited to host-country bidders where required by international agreement or by the law of the host country or where determined by the Secretary of State to be necessary in the interest of bilateral relations or necessary to carry out the construction project.

(b) Foreign laws and regulations; competitive status and adequacy; bidder qualifications

(1) Generally applicable laws and regulations pertaining to licensing and other qualifications

to do business in the country in which the contract is to be performed shall not be deemed a limitation of access for purposes of this section.

(2) For purposes of determining competitive status, bids qualifying under subsection (a)(1) of this section shall be reduced by 10 per centum.

(3) A determination of adequacy of competition for purposes of subsection (a) of this section shall be made after advance publication by the Secretary of State of the proposed project, and receipt from not less than two prospective responsible bidders of intent to submit a bid or proposal. If competition is not determined to be adequate, contracts may be awarded without regard to subsection (a) of this section and this subsection.

(4) Bidder qualification under subsection (a) of this section shall be determined on the basis of nationality of ownership, the burden of which shall be on the prospective bidder. Qualification under subsection (a)(1) of this section shall require evidence of (A) performance of similar construction work in the United States, and (B) either (i) ownership in excess of fifty percent by United States citizens or permanent residents, or (ii) incorporation in the United States for more than three years and employment of United States citizens or permanent residents in more than half of the corporation's permanent full-time professional and managerial positions in the United States.

(5) Qualification under this section shall be established on the basis of determinations at the time bids are requested.

(c) Contracts for construction, etc., in United States

Contracts for construction, alteration, or repair in the United States for or on behalf of any foreign mission (as defined in section 202(a)(4)¹ of title II of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 4302(a)(4)) may, pursuant to the authority of that title [22 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.], only be awarded to or performed by bidders qualifying under subsection (a) (1) or (2) or by nationals of the country for which the contract is being performed who are granted the right of entry into the United States for that purpose.

(d) Discretionary determinations by Secretary of State

Determinations under this section shall be committed to the discretion of the Secretary of State.

(e) Termination of requirements

This section shall cease to be effective when the Secretary of State determines that there are internationally-agree-upon² rules in effect on bidding for construction contracts.

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, §11, as added Pub. L. 98-164, title I, §136, Nov. 22, 1983, 97 Stat. 1029.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Title II of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, referred to in subsec. (c), is title II of act Aug. 1, 1956, ch. 841, as added Aug. 24, 1982, Pub. L.

¹ See References in Text note below.

² So in original. Probably should be “internationally-agreed-upon”.