

(11) section 2204g of this title.

(e) Information provided to Secretary of Commerce

This section shall not prohibit the release of information under section 2204g(f)(2) of this title.

(Pub. L. 99-198, title XVII, §1770, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1657; Pub. L. 105-113, §4(a)(2), (b), Nov. 21, 1997, 111 Stat. 2276; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(3) [title III, §348], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A-207.)

AMENDMENTS

1999—Subsec. (d)(10), (11). Pub. L. 106-113 added par. (10) and redesignated former par. (10) as (11).

1997—Subsec. (d)(10). Pub. L. 105-113, §4(a)(2), added par. (10).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 105-113, §4(b), added subsec. (e).

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 1502 of this title.

§ 2277. Contracts by Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for services to be performed abroad

Funds available to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) under this and subsequent appropriations shall be available for contracting with individuals for services to be performed outside of the United States, as determined by APHIS to be necessary or appropriate for carrying out programs and activities abroad. Such individuals shall not be regarded as officers or employees of the United States under any law administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

(Pub. L. 102-142, title VII, §737, Oct. 28, 1991, 105 Stat. 915.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in the following prior appropriation act:

Pub. L. 101-506, title VI, §641, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1350.

§ 2278. Consistency with international obligations of United States

(a) In general

Prior to the promulgation of, or amendment to, any order or plan under a research and promotion program relating to research and promotion of any agricultural commodity or product, after November 28, 1990, where such order or plan would provide for an assessment on imports, the Secretary of Agriculture shall consult with the United States Trade Representative regarding the consistency of the provisions of the order or plan with the international obligations of the United States.

(b) Compliance with U.S. international obligations

The Secretary of Agriculture shall take all steps necessary and appropriate to ensure that any order or plan or amendment to such order or plan, and the implementation and enforcement of any order or plan or amendment to such order or plan, or program as it relates to imports is nondiscriminatory and in compliance with the international obligations of the United States,

as interpreted by the United States Trade Representative.

(c) Construction

Nothing in this section shall be construed as providing for a cause of action under this section.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XIX, §1999T, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3928.)

§ 2279. Outreach and assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers

(a) Outreach and assistance

(1) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture (hereafter referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall provide outreach and technical assistance to encourage and assist socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to own and operate farms and ranches and to participate in agricultural programs. This assistance should include information on application and bidding procedures, farm management, and other essential information to participate in agricultural programs.

(2) Grants and contracts

The Secretary may make grants and enter into contracts and other agreements in the furtherance of this section with the following entities—

(A) any community based organization that—

(i) has demonstrated experience in providing agricultural education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers;

(ii) provides documentary evidence of its past experience of working with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers during the two years preceding its application for assistance under this section; and

(iii) does not engage in activities prohibited under section 501(c)(3) of title 26; and

(B) 1890 Land-Grant Colleges including Tuskegee Institute, Indian tribal community colleges and Alaska native cooperative colleges, Hispanic serving post-secondary educational institutions, and other post-secondary educational institutions with demonstrated experience in providing agriculture education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged family farmers and ranchers in their region.

(3) Funding

There are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year to carry out this subsection.

(b) Designation of Federal personnel

(1) In general

The Secretary shall designate from existing Federal personnel resources in the county or region a qualified person who shall, in cooperation with the State cooperative extension services, implement the policies and programs established or modified in accordance with this section.

(2) Additional personnel

In counties or regions in which the number of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranch-