

SUBCHAPTER VII—MANDATORY REMOVAL FROM EMPLOYMENT OF CONVICTED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

§ 7371. Mandatory removal from employment of law enforcement officers convicted of felonies

(a) In this section, the term—

(1) “conviction notice date” means the date on which an agency that employs a law enforcement officer has notice that the officer has been convicted of a felony that is entered by a Federal or State court, regardless of whether that conviction is appealed or is subject to appeal; and

(2) “law enforcement officer” has the meaning given that term under section 8331(20) or 8401(17).

(b) Any law enforcement officer who is convicted of a felony shall be removed from employment as a law enforcement officer on the last day of the first applicable pay period following the conviction notice date.

(c)(1) This section does not prohibit the removal of an individual from employment as a law enforcement officer before a conviction notice date if the removal is properly effected other than under this section.

(2) This section does not prohibit the employment of any individual in any position other than that of a law enforcement officer.

(d) If the conviction is overturned on appeal, the removal shall be set aside retroactively to the date on which the removal occurred, with back pay under section 5596 for the period during which the removal was in effect, unless the removal was properly effected other than under this section.

(e)(1) If removal is required under this section, the agency shall deliver written notice to the employee as soon as practicable, and not later than 5 calendar days after the conviction notice date. The notice shall include a description of the specific reasons for the removal, the date of removal, and the procedures made applicable under paragraph (2).

(2) The procedures under section 7513(b)(2), (3), and (4), (c), (d), and (e) shall apply to any removal under this section. The employee may use the procedures to contest or appeal a removal, but only with respect to whether—

(A) the employee is a law enforcement officer;

(B) the employee was convicted of a felony; or

(C) the conviction was overturned on appeal.

(3) A removal required under this section shall occur on the date specified in subsection (b) regardless of whether the notice required under paragraph (1) of this subsection and the procedures made applicable under paragraph (2) of this subsection have been provided or completed by that date.

(Added Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(3) [title VI, §639(a)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-168.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(3) [title VI, §639(c)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-168, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this sub-

chapter] shall take effect 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2000] and shall apply to any conviction of a felony entered by a Federal or State court on or after that date.”

CHAPTER 75—ADVERSE ACTIONS

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AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(b), title IV, §411(1), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1137, 1173, substituted “SUSPENSION OF 14 DAYS OR LESS” for “COMPETITIVE SERVICE” in subchapter I heading, substituted “Definitions” for “Cause; procedure; exception” in item 7501, added items 7502 to 7504, substituted “REMOVAL, SUSPENSION FOR MORE THAN 14 DAYS, REDUCTION IN GRADE OR PAY, OR FURLOUGH FOR 30 DAYS OR LESS” for “PREFERENCE ELIGIBLES” in subchapter II heading, inserted “; application” in item 7511, substituted “Actions covered” for “Cause; procedure; exception” in item 7512, added items 7513 and 7514, substituted “ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES” for “HEARING EXAMINERS” in subchapter III heading, substituted “Actions against administrative law judges” for “Removal” in item 7521, and added subchapter V heading and items 7541 to 7543.

SUBCHAPTER I—SUSPENSION FOR 14 DAYS OR LESS

AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1134, substituted “SUSPENSION FOR 14 DAYS OR LESS” for “COMPETITIVE SERVICE” in subchapter heading.

§ 7501. Definitions

For the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) “employee” means an individual in the competitive service who is not serving a probationary or trial period under an initial appointment or who has completed 1 year of current continuous employment in the same or similar positions under other than a temporary appointment limited to 1 year or less; and

(2) “suspension” means the placing of an employee, for disciplinary reasons, in a temporary status without duties and pay.

¹ So in original. Does not conform to subchapter heading.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1134.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7501, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 527, related to removal or suspension without pay of an individual in the competitive service and procedures applicable to such removal or suspension, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 95-454, §204(a).

EFFECTIVE DATE

Subchapter effective 90 days after Oct. 13, 1978, see section 907 of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as an Effective Date of 1978 Amendment note under section 1101 of this title.

SHORT TITLE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-376, §1, Aug. 17, 1990, 104 Stat. 461, provided that: "This Act [amending sections 4303, 7511, and 7701 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 4303 of this title] may be cited as the 'Civil Service Due Process Amendments'."

§ 7502. Actions covered

This subchapter applies to a suspension for 14 days or less, but does not apply to a suspension under section 7521 or 7532 of this title or any action initiated under section 1215 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1135; amended Pub. L. 101-12, §9(a)(2), Apr. 10, 1989, 103 Stat. 35.)

AMENDMENTS

1989—Pub. L. 101-12 substituted "1215" for "1206".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1989 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-12 effective 90 days following Apr. 10, 1989, see section 11 of Pub. L. 101-12, set out as a note under section 1201 of this title.

§ 7503. Cause and procedure

(a) Under regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management, an employee may be suspended for 14 days or less for such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service (including discourteous conduct to the public confirmed by an immediate supervisor's report of four such instances within any one-year period or any other pattern of discourteous conduct).

(b) An employee against whom a suspension for 14 days or less is proposed is entitled to—

- (1) an advance written notice stating the specific reasons for the proposed action;
- (2) a reasonable time to answer orally and in writing and to furnish affidavits and other documentary evidence in support of the answer;
- (3) be represented by an attorney or other representative; and
- (4) a written decision and the specific reasons therefor at the earliest practicable date.

(c) Copies of the notice of proposed action, the answer of the employee if written, a summary thereof if made orally, the notice of decision and reasons therefor, and any order effecting¹ the suspension, together with any supporting material, shall be maintained by the agency and shall be furnished to the Merit Systems Protection Board upon its request and to the employee affected upon the employee's request.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1135.)

¹ So in original. Probably should be "affecting".

§ 7504. Regulations

The Office of Personnel Management may prescribe regulations to carry out the purpose of this subchapter.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1135.)

SUBCHAPTER II—REMOVAL, SUSPENSION FOR MORE THAN 14 DAYS, REDUCTION IN GRADE OR PAY, OR FURLOUGH FOR 30 DAYS OR LESS

AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1135, substituted "REMOVAL, SUSPENSION FOR MORE THAN 14 DAYS, REDUCTION IN GRADE OR PAY, OR FURLOUGH FOR 30 DAYS OR LESS" for "PREFERENCE ELIGIBLES" in subchapter heading.

§ 7511. Definitions; application

(a) For the purpose of this subchapter—

(1) "employee" means—

(A) an individual in the competitive service—

(i) who is not serving a probationary or trial period under an initial appointment; or

(ii) who has completed 1 year of current continuous service under other than a temporary appointment limited to 1 year or less;

(B) a preference eligible in the excepted service who has completed 1 year of current continuous service in the same or similar positions—

(i) in an Executive agency; or

(ii) in the United States Postal Service or Postal Regulatory Commission; and

(C) an individual in the excepted service (other than a preference eligible)—

(i) who is not serving a probationary or trial period under an initial appointment pending conversion to the competitive service; or

(ii) who has completed 2 years of current continuous service in the same or similar positions in an Executive agency under other than a temporary appointment limited to 2 years or less;

(2) "suspension" has the same meaning as set forth in section 7501(2) of this title;

(3) "grade" means a level of classification under a position classification system;

(4) "pay" means the rate of basic pay fixed by law or administrative action for the position held by an employee; and

(5) "furlough" means the placing of an employee in a temporary status without duties and pay because of lack of work or funds or other nondisciplinary reasons.

(b) This subchapter does not apply to an employee—

(1) whose appointment is made by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;

(2) whose position has been determined to be of a confidential, policy-determining, policy-making or policy-advocating character by—

(A) the President for a position that the President has excepted from the competitive service;

(B) the Office of Personnel Management for a position that the Office has excepted from the competitive service; or

(C) the President or the head of an agency for a position excepted from the competitive service by statute;

(3) whose appointment is made by the President;

(4) who is receiving an annuity from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, or the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund, based on the service of such employee;

(5) who is described in section 8337(h)(1), relating to technicians in the National Guard;

(6) who is a member of the Foreign Service, as described in section 103 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980;

(7) whose position is within the Central Intelligence Agency or the Government Accountability Office;

(8) whose position is within the United States Postal Service, the Postal Regulatory Commission, the Panama Canal Commission, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, an intelligence component of the Department of Defense (as defined in section 1614 of title 10), or an intelligence activity of a military department covered under subchapter I of chapter 83 of title 10, unless subsection (a)(1)(B) of this section or section 1005(a) of title 39 is the basis for this subchapter's applicability;

(9) who is described in section 5102(c)(11) of this title; or

(10) who holds a position within the Veterans Health Administration which has been excluded from the competitive service by or under a provision of title 38, unless such employee was appointed to such position under section 7401(3) of such title.

(c) The Office may provide for the application of this subchapter to any position or group of positions excepted from the competitive service by regulation of the Office which is not otherwise covered by this subchapter.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, § 204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1135; amended Pub. L. 101-376, § 2(a), Aug. 17, 1990, 104 Stat. 461; Pub. L. 102-378, § 6(a), Oct. 2, 1992, 106 Stat. 1358; Pub. L. 103-359, title V, § 501(l), Oct. 14, 1994, 108 Stat. 3430; Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title XVI, § 1634(b), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2752; Pub. L. 108-271, § 8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814; Pub. L. 109-435, title VI, § 604(b), (f), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3241, 3242.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 103 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, referred to in subsec. (b)(6), is classified to section 3903 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7511, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 528; Pub. L. 94-183, § 2(30), Dec. 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1058, defined "preference eligible employee" and "adverse action" for purposes of this subchapter, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 95-454, § 204(a).

AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (a)(1)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 109-435, § 604(b), substituted "Postal Regulatory Commission" for "Postal Rate Commission".

Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 109-435, § 604(f), substituted "Postal Regulatory Commission" for "Postal Rate Commission".

2004—Subsec. (b)(7). Pub. L. 108-271 substituted "Government Accountability Office" for "General Accounting Office".

1996—Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 104-201 substituted "an intelligence component of the Department of Defense (as defined in section 1614 of title 10), or an intelligence activity of a military department covered under subchapter I of chapter 83 of title 10" for "the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Central Imagery Office, or an intelligence activity of a military department covered under section 1590 of title 10".

1994—Subsec. (b)(8). Pub. L. 103-359 inserted "the Central Imagery Office," after "Defense Intelligence Agency,".

1992—Subsec. (b)(7). Pub. L. 102-378, § 6(a)(1), amended par. (7) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (7) read as follows: "whose position is with the Central Intelligence Agency, the General Accounting Office, or the Veterans Health Services and Research Administration;".

Subsec. (b)(10). Pub. L. 102-378, § 6(a)(2)-(4), added par. (10).

1990—Pub. L. 101-376 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows:

"(a) For the purpose of this subchapter—

"(1) 'employee' means—

"(A) an individual in the competitive service who is not serving a probationary or trial period under an initial appointment or who has completed 1 year of current continuous employment under other than a temporary appointment limited to 1 year or less; and

"(B) a preference eligible in an Executive agency in the excepted service, and a preference eligible in the United States Postal Service or the Postal Rate Commission, who has completed 1 year of current continuous service in the same or similar positions;

"(2) 'suspension' has the meaning as set forth in section 7501(2) of this title;

"(3) 'grade' means a level of classification under a position classification system;

"(4) 'pay' means the rate of basic pay fixed by law or administrative action for the position held by an employee; and

"(5) 'furlough' means the placing of an employee in a temporary status without duties and pay because of lack of work or funds or other nondisciplinary reasons.

"(b) This subchapter does not apply to an employee—

"(1) whose appointment is made by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;

"(2) whose position has been determined to be of a confidential, policy-determining, policy-making or policy-advocating character by—

"(A) the Office of Personnel Management for a position that it has excepted from the competitive service; or

"(B) the President or the head of an agency for a position which is excepted from the competitive service by statute.

"(c) The Office may provide for the application of this subchapter to any position or group of positions excepted from the competitive service by regulation of the Office."

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-201 effective Oct. 1, 1996, see section 1635 of Pub. L. 104-201, set out as a note under section 1593 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Section 6(b) of Pub. L. 102-378 provided that:

"(1) The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to any personnel action taking effect on or after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 2, 1992].

“(2) In the case of an employee or former employee of the Veterans Health Administration (or predecessor agency in name)—

“(A) against whom an adverse personnel action was taken before the date of enactment of this Act,

“(B) who, as a result of the enactment of the Civil Service Due Process Amendments (5 U.S.C. 7501 note) [Pub. L. 101-376], became ineligible to appeal such action to the Merit Systems Protection Board,

“(C) as to whom that appeal right is restored as a result of the enactment of subsection (a), or would have been restored but for the passage of time, and

“(D) who is not precluded, by section 7121(e)(1) of title 5, United States Code, from appealing to the Merit Systems Protection Board, the deadline for bringing an appeal under section 7513(d) or section 4303(e) of such title with respect to such action shall be the latter of—

“(i) the 60th day after the date of enactment of this Act; or

“(ii) the deadline which would otherwise apply if this paragraph had not been enacted.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-376 applicable with respect to any personnel action taking effect on or after Aug. 17, 1990, see section 2(c) of Pub. L. 101-376, set out as a note under section 4303 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Subchapter effective 90 days after Oct. 13, 1978, see section 907 of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as an Effective Date of 1978 Amendment note under section 1101 of this title.

§ 7512. Actions covered

This subchapter applies to—

- (1) a removal;
- (2) a suspension for more than 14 days;
- (3) a reduction in grade;
- (4) a reduction in pay; and
- (5) a furlough of 30 days or less;

but does not apply to—

(A) a suspension or removal under section 7532 of this title,

(B) a reduction-in-force action under section 3502 of this title,

(C) the reduction in grade of a supervisor or manager who has not completed the probationary period under section 3321(a)(2) of this title if such reduction is to the grade held immediately before becoming such a supervisor or manager,

(D) a reduction in grade or removal under section 4303 of this title, or

(E) an action initiated under section 1215 or 7521 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1136; amended Pub. L. 101-12, §9(a)(2), Apr. 10, 1989, 103 Stat. 35.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7512, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 528, related to adverse action against a preference eligible employee and procedures applicable to such adverse action, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 95-454, §204(a).

AMENDMENTS

1989—Par. (E). Pub. L. 101-12 substituted “1215” for “1206”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1989 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-12 effective 90 days following Apr. 10, 1989, see section 11 of Pub. L. 101-12, set out as a note under section 1201 of this title.

§ 7513. Cause and procedure

(a) Under regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management, an agency may take an action covered by this subchapter against an employee only for such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service.

(b) An employee against whom an action is proposed is entitled to—

(1) at least 30 days' advance written notice, unless there is reasonable cause to believe the employee has committed a crime for which a sentence of imprisonment may be imposed, stating the specific reasons for the proposed action;

(2) a reasonable time, but not less than 7 days, to answer orally and in writing and to furnish affidavits and other documentary evidence in support of the answer;

(3) be represented by an attorney or other representative; and

(4) a written decision and the specific reasons therefor at the earliest practicable date.

(c) An agency may provide, by regulation, for a hearing which may be in lieu of or in addition to the opportunity to answer provided under subsection (b)(2) of this section.

(d) An employee against whom an action is taken under this section is entitled to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board under section 7701 of this title.

(e) Copies of the notice of proposed action, the answer of the employee when written, a summary thereof when made orally, the notice of decision and reasons therefor, and any order effecting an action covered by this subchapter, together with any supporting material, shall be maintained by the agency and shall be furnished to the Board upon its request and to the employee affected upon the employee's request.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1136.)

§ 7514. Regulations

The Office of Personnel Management may prescribe regulations to carry out the purpose of this subchapter, except as it concerns any matter with respect to which the Merit Systems Protection Board may prescribe regulations.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1137.)

SUBCHAPTER III—ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1137, substituted “ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES” for “HEARING EXAMINERS” in subchapter heading.

§ 7521. Actions against administrative law judges

(a) An action may be taken against an administrative law judge appointed under section 3105 of this title by the agency in which the administrative law judge is employed only for good cause established and determined by the Merit Systems Protection Board on the record after opportunity for hearing before the Board.

(b) The actions covered by this section are—

- (1) a removal;
- (2) a suspension;
- (3) a reduction in grade;
- (4) a reduction in pay; and
- (5) a furlough of 30 days or less;

but do not include—

- (A) a suspension or removal under section 7532 of this title;
- (B) a reduction-in-force action under section 3502 of this title; or
- (C) any action initiated under section 1215 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §204(a), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1137; amended Pub. L. 101-12, §9(a)(2), Apr. 10, 1989, 103 Stat. 35.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 7521, Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 528; Pub. L. 95-251, §2(a)(1), Mar. 27, 1978, 92 Stat. 183, related to removal of an administrative law judge appointed under section 3105 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 95-454, §204(a).

AMENDMENTS

1989—Subsec. (b)(C). Pub. L. 101-12 substituted “1215” for “1206”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1989 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-12 effective 90 days following Apr. 10, 1989, see section 11 of Pub. L. 101-12, set out as a note under section 1201 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 90 days after Oct. 13, 1978, see section 907 of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as an Effective Date of 1978 Amendment note under section 1101 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER IV—NATIONAL SECURITY

§ 7531. Definitions

For the purpose of this subchapter, “agency” means—

- (1) the Department of State;
- (2) the Department of Commerce;
- (3) the Department of Justice;
- (4) the Department of Defense;
- (5) a military department;
- (6) the Coast Guard;
- (7) the Atomic Energy Commission;
- (8) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and
- (9) such other agency of the Government of the United States as the President designates in the best interests of national security.

The President shall report any designation to the Committees on the Armed Services of the Congress.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 528.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Derivation</i>	<i>U.S. Code</i>	<i>Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large</i>
.....	5 U.S.C. 22-3.	Aug. 26, 1950, ch. 823, §3, 64 Stat. 477.

Paragraphs (1)–(8) are supplied on authority of former section 22-1, which is carried in part into section 7532. The references to “the Foreign Service of the United States” and “several field services” are omitted as unnecessary since they are within the agencies concerned. The words “military departments” are substituted for

the enumeration of the military departments in view of the definition of “military department” in section 102.

The reference to the National Security Resources Board is omitted as the Board was abolished by 1953 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §6, eff. June 12, 1953, 67 Stat. 636.

Paragraph (9) is restated to conform to the style of this title.

Standard changes are made to conform with the definitions applicable and the style of this title as outlined in the preface to the report.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of authorities, functions, personnel, and assets of the Coast Guard, including the authorities and functions of the Secretary of Transportation relating thereto, to the Department of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see sections 468(b), 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

ABOLITION OF ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Atomic Energy Commission abolished and functions transferred by sections 5814 and 5841 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. See, also, Transfer of Functions notes set out under those sections.

PANAMA CANAL AND PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY

Ex. Ord. No. 10237, Apr. 27, 1951, 16 F.R. 3627, made the provisions of former sections 22-1 and 22-3 of this title [see Disposition Table preceding section 101 of this title] applicable to the Panama Canal Government and to the Panama Canal Company.

DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, AND DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY AS “AGENCIES”

Memorandum of the President of the United States, May 23, 1988, 53 F.R. 26023, provided:

Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense

I have reviewed the personnel security requirements of the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Defense Mapping Agency and the termination provisions of 5 U.S.C. Section 7532. I have determined that these Agencies are sensitive agencies and that it is in the best interests of national security that they be designated “agencies” within the meaning of that section.

Therefore, pursuant to the authority set forth in 5 U.S.C. Section 7531(9), I hereby designate the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Defense Mapping Agency as “agencies” within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. Section 7532.

You are hereby authorized and directed to report these designations to the Committees on Armed Services of the Congress and to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

RONALD REAGAN.

§ 7532. Suspension and removal

(a) Notwithstanding other statutes, the head of an agency may suspend without pay an employee of his agency when he considers that action necessary in the interests of national security. To the extent that the head of the agency determines that the interests of national security permit, the suspended employee shall be notified of the reasons for the suspension. Within 30 days after the notification, the suspended employee is entitled to submit to the official designated by the head of the agency statements or affidavits to show why he should be restored to duty.

(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, the head of an agency may remove an employee

suspended under subsection (a) of this section when, after such investigation and review as he considers necessary, he determines that removal is necessary or advisable in the interests of national security. The determination of the head of the agency is final.

(c) An employee suspended under subsection (a) of this section who—

- (1) has a permanent or indefinite appointment;
- (2) has completed his probationary or trial period; and
- (3) is a citizen of the United States;

is entitled, after suspension and before removal, to—

- (A) a written statement of the charges against him within 30 days after suspension, which may be amended within 30 days thereafter and which shall be stated as specifically as security considerations permit;
- (B) an opportunity within 30 days thereafter, plus an additional 30 days if the charges are amended, to answer the charges and submit affidavits;
- (C) a hearing, at the request of the employee, by an agency authority duly constituted for this purpose;
- (D) a review of his case by the head of the agency or his designee, before a decision adverse to the employee is made final; and
- (E) a written statement of the decision of the head of the agency.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 529.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Derivation</i>	<i>U.S. Code</i>	<i>Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large</i>
.....	5 U.S.C. 22-1 (less 3d-5th provisos).	Aug. 26, 1950, ch. 803, § 1 (less 3d-5th provisos), 64 Stat. 476. July 29, 1958, Pub. L. 85-568, § 301(c), 72 Stat. 432.

The application of this section is covered by the definition in section 7531.

In subsection (a), the words “Notwithstanding the provisions of section 652 of this title” are omitted but are carried into section 7501(c). The words “in his absolute discretion” are omitted as unnecessary in view of the permissive grant of authority. The word “reinstated” is omitted as it is commonly used in other statutes to denote action different from that referred to here.

In subsections (b) and (c), the words “remove” and “removal” are coextensive with and substituted for “terminate the employment”, “termination”, and “employment is terminated”, as appropriate.

Standard changes are made to conform with the definitions applicable and the style of this title as outlined in the preface to the report.

§ 7533. Effect on other statutes

This subchapter does not impair the powers vested in the Atomic Energy Commission by chapter 23 of title 42, or the requirement in section 2201(d) of title 42 that adequate provision be made for administrative review of a determination to dismiss an employee of the Atomic Energy Commission.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 529.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Derivation</i>	<i>U.S. Code</i>	<i>Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large</i>
.....	5 U.S.C. 22-2.	Aug. 26, 1950, ch. 803, § 2, 64 Stat. 477.

Standard changes are made to conform with the definitions applicable and the style of this title as outlined in the preface to the report.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Atomic Energy Commission abolished and functions transferred by sections 5814 and 5841 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. See, also, Transfer of Functions notes set out under those sections.

SUBCHAPTER V—SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE

§ 7541. Definitions

For the purpose of this subchapter—

- (1) “employee” means a career appointee in the Senior Executive Service who—
 - (A) has completed the probationary period prescribed under section 3393(d) of this title; or
 - (B) was covered by the provisions of subchapter II of this chapter immediately before appointment to the Senior Executive Service; and
- (2) “suspension” has the meaning set forth in section 7501(2) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title IV, § 411(2), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1174.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Subchapter effective 9 months after Oct. 13, 1978, and congressional review of provisions of sections 401 through 412 of Pub. L. 95-454, see section 415 of Pub. L. 95-454, set out as a note under section 3131 of this title.

§ 7542. Actions covered

This subchapter applies to a removal from the civil service or suspension for more than 14 days, but does not apply to an action initiated under section 1215 of this title, to a suspension or removal under section 7532 of this title, or to a removal under section 3592 or 3595 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title IV, § 411(2), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1174; amended Pub. L. 97-35, title XVII, § 1704(d)(1), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 758; Pub. L. 101-12, § 9(a)(2), Apr. 10, 1989, 103 Stat. 35.)

AMENDMENTS

- 1989—Pub. L. 101-12 substituted “1215” for “1206”.
- 1981—Pub. L. 97-35 inserted reference to section 3595 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1989 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-12 effective 90 days following Apr. 10, 1989, see section 11 of Pub. L. 101-12, set out as a note under section 1201 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-35 effective June 1, 1981, with certain exceptions and conditions, see section 1704(e) of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3595 of this title.

§ 7543. Cause and procedure

(a) Under regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management, an agency may take

an action covered by this subchapter against an employee only for misconduct, neglect of duty, malfeasance, or failure to accept a directed reassignment or to accompany a position in a transfer of function.

(b) An employee against whom an action covered by this subchapter is proposed is entitled to—

(1) at least 30 days' advance written notice, unless there is reasonable cause to believe that the employee has committed a crime for which a sentence of imprisonment can be imposed, stating specific reasons for the proposed action;

(2) a reasonable time, but not less than 7 days, to answer orally and in writing and to furnish affidavits and other documentary evidence in support of the answer;

(3) be represented by an attorney or other representative; and

(4) a written decision and specific reasons therefor at the earliest practicable date.

(c) An agency may provide, by regulation, for a hearing which may be in lieu of or in addition to the opportunity to answer provided under subsection (b)(2) of this section.

(d) An employee against whom an action is taken under this section is entitled to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board under section 7701 of this title.

(e) Copies of the notice of proposed action, the answer of the employee when written, and a summary thereof when made orally, the notice of decision and reasons therefor, and any order effecting an action covered by this subchapter, together with any supporting material, shall be maintained by the agency and shall be furnished to the Merit Systems Protection Board upon its request and to the employee affected upon the employee's request.

(Added Pub. L. 95-454, title IV, §411(2), Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1174; amended Pub. L. 97-35, title XVII, §1704(d)(2), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 758; Pub. L. 98-615, title III, §304(c), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3219.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 98-615 inserted reference to failure to accept a directed reassignment or to accompany a position in a transfer of function.

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-35 substituted "misconduct, neglect of duty, or malfeasance" for "such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-615 effective Nov. 8, 1984, see section 307 of Pub. L. 98-615, set out as a note under section 3393 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-35 effective June 1, 1981, with certain exceptions and conditions, see section 1704(e) of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3595 of this title.

CHAPTER 77—APPEALS

Sec.	
7701.	Appellate procedures.
7702.	Actions involving discrimination.
7703.	Judicial review of decisions of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

AMENDMENTS

1978—Pub. L. 95-454, title II, §205, Oct. 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1138, substituted "Appellate procedures" for "Appeals of preference eligibles" in item 7701, and added items 7702 and 7703.

§ 7701. Appellate procedures

(a) An employee, or applicant for employment, may submit an appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board from any action which is appealable to the Board under any law, rule, or regulation. An appellant shall have the right—

(1) to a hearing for which a transcript will be kept; and

(2) to be represented by an attorney or other representative.

Appeals shall be processed in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Board.

(b)(1) The Board may hear any case appealed to it or may refer the case to an administrative law judge appointed under section 3105 of this title or other employee of the Board designated by the Board to hear such cases, except that in any case involving a removal from the service, the case shall be heard by the Board, an employee experienced in hearing appeals, or an administrative law judge. The Board, administrative law judge, or other employee (as the case may be) shall make a decision after receipt of the written representations of the parties to the appeal and after opportunity for a hearing under subsection (a)(1) of this section. A copy of the decision shall be furnished to each party to the appeal and to the Office of Personnel Management.

(2)(A) If an employee or applicant for employment is the prevailing party in an appeal under this subsection, the employee or applicant shall be granted the relief provided in the decision effective upon the making of the decision, and remaining in effect pending the outcome of any petition for review under subsection (e), unless—

(i) the deciding official determines that the granting of such relief is not appropriate; or

(ii)(I) the relief granted in the decision provides that such employee or applicant shall return or be present at the place of employment during the period pending the outcome of any petition for review under subsection (e); and

(II) the employing agency, subject to the provisions of subparagraph (B), determines that the return or presence of such employee or applicant is unduly disruptive to the work environment.

(B) If an agency makes a determination under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) that prevents the return or presence of an employee at the place of employment, such employee shall receive pay, compensation, and all other benefits as terms and conditions of employment during the period pending the outcome of any petition for review under subsection (e).

(C) Nothing in the provisions of this paragraph may be construed to require any award of back pay or attorney fees be paid before the decision is final.

(3) With respect to an appeal from an adverse action covered by subchapter V of chapter 75, authority to mitigate the personnel action involved shall be available, subject to the same