

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

**§ 3107. Authority of Comptroller General**

Chapters 21, 25, 27,<sup>1</sup> 29, and 31 of this title do not limit the authority of the Comptroller General of the United States with respect to prescribing accounting systems, forms, and procedures, or lessen the responsibility of collecting and disbursing officers for rendition of their accounts for settlement by the Government Accountability Office.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1298; Pub. L. 94-575, §3(a)(4), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2727; Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §396(g) (June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title V, §506(g), as added Sept. 5, 1950, ch. 849, §6(d), 64 Stat. 583).

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Chapter 27 of this title, referred to in text, was repealed by Pub. L. 95-378, §2(a), Sept. 22, 1978, 92 Stat. 723.

## AMENDMENTS

2004—Pub. L. 108-271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office”.

1976—Pub. L. 94-575 substituted “Chapters 21, 25, 27, 29, and 31 of this title” for “Sections 2101-2113, 2501-2507, 2701, 2901, 2904-2910, and 3101-3107, of this title”.

**CHAPTER 33—DISPOSAL OF RECORDS**

Sec.	
3301.	Definition of records.
3302.	Regulations covering lists of records for disposal, procedure for disposal, and standards for reproduction.
3303.	Lists and schedules of records to be submitted to Archivist by head of each Government agency. <sup>1</sup>
3303a.	Examination by Archivist of lists and schedules of records lacking preservation value; disposal of records.
[3304 to 3307.	Repealed.]
3308.	Disposal of similar records where prior disposal was authorized.
3309.	Preservation of claims of Government until settled in Government Accountability Office; disposal authorized upon written approval of Comptroller General.
3310.	Disposal of records constituting menace to health, life, or property.
3311.	Destruction of records outside continental United States in time of war or when hostile action seems imminent; written report to Archivist.
3312.	Photographs or microphotographs of records considered as originals; certified reproductions admissible in evidence.
3313.	Moneys from sale of records payable into the Treasury.
3314.	Procedures for disposal of records exclusive.
[3315 to 3324.	Repealed.]

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

<sup>1</sup> Does not conform to section catchline.

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-187, §7(b), Nov. 26, 2014, 128 Stat. 2011, struck out items 3315 “Definitions”, 3316 “Establishment of Commission”, 3317 “Duties of Commission”, 3318 “Membership”, 3319 “Director and staff; experts and consultants”, 3320 “Powers of Commission”, 3321 “Support services”, 3322 “Report”, 3323 “Termination”, and 3324 “Authorization of appropriations”.

2004—Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814, substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office” in item 3309.

1984—Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(25)(D), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2290, substituted “Archivist” for “Administrator of General Services” in items 3303, 3303a, and 3311.

1976—Pub. L. 94-575, §4(c)(1), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2727, struck out “; approval by President” after “standards for reproduction” in item 3302.

1974—Pub. L. 93-526, title II, §203, Dec. 19, 1974, 88 Stat. 1702, added items 3315 to 3324.

1970—Pub. L. 91-287, §3, June 23, 1970, 84 Stat. 322, inserted item 3303a and struck out items 3304 “Lists and schedules of records lacking preservation value; submission to Congress by Administrator of General Services”, 3305 “Examination of lists and schedules by joint congressional committee and report to Congress”, 3306 “Disposal of records by head of Government agency upon notification by Administrator of General Services of action by joint congressional committee”, and 3307 “Disposal of records upon failure of joint congressional committee to act”.

**§ 3301. Definition of records**

## (a) RECORDS DEFINED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As used in this chapter, the term “records”—

(A) includes all recorded information, regardless of form or characteristics, made or received by a Federal agency under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by that agency or its legitimate successor as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the United States Government or because of the informational value of data in them; and

(B) does not include—

(i) library and museum material made or acquired and preserved solely for reference or exhibition purposes; or

(ii) duplicate copies of records preserved only for convenience.

(2) RECORDED INFORMATION DEFINED.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term “recorded information” includes all traditional forms of records, regardless of physical form or characteristics, including information created, manipulated, communicated, or stored in digital or electronic form.

(b) DETERMINATION OF DEFINITION.—The Archivist’s determination whether recorded information, regardless of whether it exists in physical, digital, or electronic form, is a record as defined in subsection (a) shall be binding on all Federal agencies.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1299; Pub. L. 94-575, §4(c)(2), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2727; Pub. L. 113-187, §5(a), Nov. 26, 2014, 128 Stat. 2009.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §366 (July 7, 1943, ch. 192, §1, 57 Stat. 380).

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2014—Pub. L. 113-187 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “As used in this chapter, ‘records’ includes all books, papers, maps, photographs, machine readable materials, or other documentary materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by an agency of the United States Government under Federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by that agency or its legitimate successor as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the Government or because of the informational value of data in them. Library and museum material made or acquired and preserved solely for reference or exhibition purposes, extra copies of documents preserved only for convenience of reference, and stocks of publications and of processed documents are not included.”

1976—Pub. L. 94-575 expanded “records” to include “machine readable materials”.

**§ 3302. Regulations covering lists of records for disposal, procedure for disposal, and standards for reproduction**

The Archivist shall promulgate regulations, not inconsistent with this chapter, establishing—

- (1) procedures for the compiling and submitting to the Archivist of lists and schedules of records proposed for disposal,
- (2) procedures for the disposal of records authorized for disposal, and
- (3) standards for the reproduction of records by photographic, microphotographic, or digital processes with a view to the disposal of the original records.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1299; Pub. L. 94-575, §4(c)(1), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2727; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(23), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2290; Pub. L. 113-187, §§5(b), 8(12), Nov. 26, 2014, 128 Stat. 2010, 2012.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §367 (July 7, 1943, ch. 192, §2, 57 Stat. 381; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §104, 63 Stat. 381).

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2014—Par. (1). Pub. L. 113-187, §8(12), substituted “the Archivist” for “him”.

Par. (3). Pub. L. 113-187, §5(b), substituted “photographic, microphotographic, or digital processes” for “photographic or microphotographic processes”.

1984—Pub. L. 98-497 substituted “Archivist” for “Administrator of General Services”.

1976—Pub. L. 94-575 struck out “; approval by President” after “standards for reproduction” in section catchline.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

**§ 3303. Lists and schedules of records to be submitted to the Archivist by head of each Government agency**

The head of each agency of the United States Government shall submit to the Archivist,

under regulations promulgated as provided by section 3302 of this title—

(1) lists of any records in the custody of the agency that have been photographed, microphotographed, or digitized under the regulations and that, as a consequence, do not appear to have sufficient value to warrant their further preservation by the Government;

(2) lists of other records in the custody of the agency not needed by it in the transaction of its current business and that do not appear to have sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their further preservation by the Government; and

(3) schedules proposing the disposal after the lapse of specified periods of time of records of a specified form or character that either have accumulated in the custody of the agency or may accumulate after the submission of the schedules and apparently will not after the lapse of the period specified have sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their further preservation by the Government.

(Pub. L. 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968, 82 Stat. 1299; Pub. L. 98-497, title I, §107(b)(23), (25)(A), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2290; Pub. L. 113-187, §5(c), Nov. 26, 2014, 128 Stat. 2010.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on 44 U.S. Code, 1964 ed., §368 (July 7, 1943, ch. 192, §3, 57 Stat. 381; June 30, 1949, ch. 288, title I, §104(a), 63 Stat. 381).

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2014—Par. (1). Pub. L. 113-187 substituted “photographed, microphotographed, or digitized” for “photographed or microphotographed”.

1984—Pub. L. 98-497 substituted “the Archivist” for “Administrator of General Services” in section catchline, and “Archivist” for “Administrator of General Services” in text.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-497 effective Apr. 1, 1985, see section 301 of Pub. L. 98-497, set out as a note under section 2102 of this title.

**§ 3303a. Examination by Archivist of lists and schedules of records lacking preservation value; disposal of records**

(a) The Archivist shall examine the lists and schedules submitted to the Archivist under section 3303 of this title. If the Archivist determines that any of the records listed in a list or schedule submitted to the Archivist do not, or will not after the lapse of the period specified, have sufficient administrative, legal, research, or other value to warrant their continued preservation by the Government, the Archivist may, after publication of notice in the Federal Register and an opportunity for interested persons to submit comment thereon—

(1) notify the agency to that effect; and

(2) empower the agency to dispose of those records in accordance with regulations promulgated under section 3302 of this title.

(b) Authorizations granted under lists and schedules submitted to the Archivist under sec-