

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT**

Amendments by sections 101(c)(1) and 102(c)(1) of Pub. L. 110-261 effective July 10, 2008, except as otherwise provided in section 404 of Pub. L. 110-261, set out as a Transition Procedures note under section 1801 of Title 50, War and National Defense, see section 402 of Pub. L. 110-261, set out as a note under section 1801 of Title 50.

Pub. L. 110-261, title IV, § 403(b)(2), July 10, 2008, 122 Stat. 2474, as amended by Pub. L. 112-238, § 2(a)(2), Dec. 30, 2012, 126 Stat. 1631; Pub. L. 115-118, title II, § 201(a)(2), Jan. 19, 2018, 132 Stat. 19, provided that, except as provided in section 404 of Pub. L. 110-261, set out as a Transition Procedures note under section 1801 of Title 50, War and National Defense, the amendments made by section 403(b)(2) are effective Dec. 31, 2023.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-296 effective 60 days after Nov. 25, 2002, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-296, set out as an Effective Date note under section 101 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-294 effective Sept. 13, 1994, see section 604(d) of Pub. L. 104-294, set out as a note under section 13 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-508 effective 90 days after Oct. 21, 1986, and, in case of conduct pursuant to court order or extension, applicable only with respect to court orders and extensions made after such date, with special rule for State authorizations of interceptions, see section 111 of Pub. L. 99-508, set out as a note under section 2510 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-549 effective 60 days after Oct. 30, 1984, see section 9(a) of Pub. L. 98-549, set out as an Effective Date note under section 521 of Title 47, Telecommunications.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-511 effective Oct. 25, 1978, except as specifically provided, see section 401 of Pub. L. 95-511, formerly set out as an Effective Date note under section 1801 of Title 50, War and National Defense.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-358 effective on first day of seventh calendar month which begins after July 29, 1970, see section 901(a) of Pub. L. 91-358.

§ 2512. Manufacture, distribution, possession, and advertising of wire, oral, or electronic communication intercepting devices prohibited

(1) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter, any person who intentionally—

(a) sends through the mail, or sends or carries in interstate or foreign commerce, any electronic, mechanical, or other device, knowing or having reason to know that the design of such device renders it primarily useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications;

(b) manufactures, assembles, possesses, or sells any electronic, mechanical, or other device, knowing or having reason to know that the design of such device renders it primarily useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications, and that such device or any com-

ponent thereof has been or will be sent through the mail or transported in interstate or foreign commerce; or

(c) places in any newspaper, magazine, handbill, or other publication or disseminates by electronic means any advertisement of—

(i) any electronic, mechanical, or other device knowing or having reason to know that the design of such device renders it primarily useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications; or

(ii) any other electronic, mechanical, or other device, where such advertisement promotes the use of such device for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications,

knowing the content of the advertisement and knowing or having reason to know that such advertisement will be sent through the mail or transported in interstate or foreign commerce,

shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(2) It shall not be unlawful under this section for—

(a) a provider of wire or electronic communication service or an officer, agent, or employee of, or a person under contract with, such a provider, in the normal course of the business of providing that wire or electronic communication service, or

(b) an officer, agent, or employee of, or a person under contract with, the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof, in the normal course of the activities of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof,

to send through the mail, send or carry in interstate or foreign commerce, or manufacture, assemble, possess, or sell any electronic, mechanical, or other device knowing or having reason to know that the design of such device renders it primarily useful for the purpose of the surreptitious interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications.

(3) It shall not be unlawful under this section to advertise for sale a device described in subsection (1) of this section if the advertisement is mailed, sent, or carried in interstate or foreign commerce solely to a domestic provider of wire or electronic communication service or to an agency of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof which is duly authorized to use such device.

(Added Pub. L. 90-351, title III, § 802, June 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 214; amended Pub. L. 99-508, title I, § 101(c)(1)(A), (7), (f)(2), Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1851, 1853; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §§ 330016(1)(L), 330022, Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147, 2150; Pub. L. 104-294, title VI, § 604(b)(45), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3509; Pub. L. 105-112, § 2, Nov. 21, 1997, 111 Stat. 2273; Pub. L. 107-296, title XXII, § 2207(f), formerly title II, § 225(f), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2158, renumbered § 2207(f), Pub. L. 115-278, § 2(g)(2)(I), Nov. 16, 2018, 132 Stat. 4178.)

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

2002—Par. (1)(c). Pub. L. 107-296, in introductory provisions, inserted “or disseminates by electronic means”

after “or other publication” and, in concluding provisions, inserted “knowing the content of the advertisement and” before “knowing or having reason to know”.

1997—Par. (3). Pub. L. 105–112 added par. (3).

1996—Par. (2). Pub. L. 104–294 amended directory language of Pub. L. 103–322, §330022. See 1994 Amendment note below.

1994—Par. (1). Pub. L. 103–322, §330016(1)(L), substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$10,000” in concluding provisions.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 103–322, §330022, as amended by Pub. L. 104–294, realigned margins of concluding provisions.

1986—Pub. L. 99–508, §101(c)(1)(A), substituted “wire, oral, or electronic” for “wire or oral” in section catchline.

Par. (1). Pub. L. 99–508, §101(c)(1)(A), (f)(2), substituted “intentionally” for “willfully” in introductory provision and “wire, oral, or electronic” for “wire or oral” in subpars. (a), (b), and (c)(i), (ii).

Par. (2)(a). Pub. L. 99–508, §101(c)(7), substituted “a provider of wire or electronic communication service or” for “a communications common carrier or”, “such a provider, in” for “a communications common carrier, in”, and “business of providing that wire or electronic communication service” for “communications common carrier’s business”.

Par. (2)(b). Pub. L. 99–508, §101(c)(1)(A), substituted “wire, oral, or electronic” for “wire or oral”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

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EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

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§ 2513. Confiscation of wire, oral, or electronic communication intercepting devices

Any electronic, mechanical, or other device used, sent, carried, manufactured, assembled, possessed, sold, or advertised in violation of section 2511 or section 2512 of this chapter may be seized and forfeited to the United States. All provisions of law relating to (1) the seizure, summary and judicial forfeiture, and condemnation of vessels, vehicles, merchandise, and baggage for violations of the customs laws contained in title 19 of the United States Code, (2) the disposition of such vessels, vehicles, merchandise, and baggage or the proceeds from the sale thereof, (3) the remission or mitigation of such forfeiture, (4) the compromise of claims, and (5) the award of compensation to informers in respect of such forfeitures, shall apply to seizures and forfeitures incurred, or alleged to have been incurred, under the provisions of this section, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this section; except that such duties as are imposed upon the collector of customs or any other person with respect to the

seizure and forfeiture of vessels, vehicles, merchandise, and baggage under the provisions of the customs laws contained in title 19 of the United States Code shall be performed with respect to seizure and forfeiture of electronic, mechanical, or other intercepting devices under this section by such officers, agents, or other persons as may be authorized or designated for that purpose by the Attorney General.

(Added Pub. L. 90–351, title III, §802, June 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 215; amended Pub. L. 99–508, title I, §101(c)(1)(A), Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1851.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1986—Pub. L. 99–508 substituted “wire, oral, or electronic” for “wire or oral” in section catchline.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

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[§ 2514. Repealed. Pub. L. 91–452, title II, § 227(a), Oct. 15, 1970, 84 Stat. 930]

Section, Pub. L. 90–351, title II, §802, June 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 216, provided for immunity of witnesses giving testimony or producing evidence under compulsion in Federal grand jury or court proceedings. Subject matter is covered in sections 6002 and 6003 of this title.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Sections 227(a) and 260 of Pub. L. 91–452 provided for repeal of this section effective four years following sixtieth day after date of enactment of Pub. L. 91–452, which was approved Oct. 15, 1970, such repeal not affecting any immunity to which any individual was entitled under this section by reason of any testimony or other information given before such date. See section 260 of Pub. L. 91–452, set out as an Effective Date; Savings Provision note under section 6001 of this title.

§ 2515. Prohibition of use as evidence of intercepted wire or oral communications

Whenever any wire or oral communication has been intercepted, no part of the contents of such communication and no evidence derived therefrom may be received in evidence in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding in or before any court, grand jury, department, officer, agency, regulatory body, legislative committee, or other authority of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof if the disclosure of that information would be in violation of this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 90–351, title III, §802, June 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 216.)

§ 2516. Authorization for interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications

(1) The Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Associate Attorney General,¹ or any

¹ See 1984 Amendment note below.