

form or manner than is required by its own constitution or bylaws, except as otherwise provided by the election provisions of the Act.

(b) The remedy⁶⁰ provided in the Act for challenging an election already conducted is exclusive.⁶¹ However, existing rights and remedies to enforce the constitutions and bylaws of such organizations before an election has been held are unaffected by the election provisions. Section 603⁶² which applies to the entire Act, states that except where explicitly provided to the contrary, nothing in the Act shall take away any right or bar any remedy of any union member under other Federal law or law of any State.

[38 FR 18324, July 9, 1973, as amended at 50 FR 31311, Aug. 1, 1985]

PART 453—GENERAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE BONDING REQUIREMENTS OF THE LABOR-MANAGEMENT REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1959

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⁶⁰Act, sec. 402.

⁶¹Act, sec. 403. See Daily Cong. Rec. 86th Cong., 1st sess., p. 9115, June 8, 1959, pp. 13017 and 13090, July 27, 1959. H. Rept. No. 741, p. 17; S. Rept. No. 187, pp. 21-22, 101, 104. Hearings, House Comm. on Education and Labor, 86th Cong., 1st sess., pt. 1, p. 1611. See also *Furniture Store Drivers Local 82 v. Crowley*, 104 S.Ct. 2557 (1984).

⁶²Act, sec. 603.

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 502, 73 Stat. 536; 79 Stat. 888 (29 U.S.C. 502); Secretary's Order No. 5-96, 62 FR 107, January 2, 1997.

SOURCE: 28 FR 14394, Dec. 27, 1963, unless otherwise noted.

INTRODUCTION

§ 453.1 Scope and significance of this part.

(a) *Functions of the Department of Labor.* This part discusses the meaning and scope of section 502 of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959¹ (hereinafter referred to as

¹73 Stat. 536; 29 U.S.C. 502.

§ 453.2

the Act), which requires the bonding of certain officials, representatives, and employees of labor organizations and of trusts in which labor organizations are interested. The provisions of section 502 are subject to the general investigatory authority of the Secretary of Labor, embodied in section 601 of the Act (and delegated by him to the Assistant Secretary), which empowers him to investigate whenever he believes it necessary in order to determine whether any person has violated or is about to violate any provisions of the Act (except title I or amendments to other statutes made by section 505 or title VII). The Department of Labor is also authorized, under the general provisions of section 607, to forward to the Attorney General, for appropriate action, any evidence of violations of section 502 developed in such investigations, as may be found to warrant criminal prosecution under the Act or other Federal law.

(b) *Purpose and effect of interpretations.* Interpretations of the Assistant Secretary with respect to the bonding provisions are set forth in this part to provide those affected by these provisions of the Act with "a practical guide * * * as to how the office representing the public interest in its enforcement will seek to apply it."² The correctness of an interpretation can be determined finally and authoritatively only by the courts. It is necessary, however, for the Assistant Secretary to reach informed conclusions as to the meaning of the law to enable him to carry out his statutory duties of administration and enforcement. The interpretations of the Assistant Secretary contained in this part, which are issued upon the advice of the Solicitor of Labor, indicate the construction of the law which will guide him in performing his duties unless and until he is directed otherwise by authoritative rulings of the courts or unless and until he subsequently decides that a prior interpretation is incorrect. However, the omission to discuss a particular problem in this part, or in interpretations supplementing it, should not be taken to indicate the adoption of any position by the Assistant Secretary with respect to such

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problem or to constitute an administrative interpretation or practice.

(c) *Earlier interpretations superseded.* To the extent that prior opinions and interpretations under the Act, relating to the bonding of certain officials, representatives, and employees of labor organizations and of trusts in which labor organizations are interested, are inconsistent or in conflict with the principles stated in this part, they are hereby rescinded and withdrawn.

[28 FR 14394, Dec. 27, 1963, as amended at 50 FR 31309, Aug. 1, 1985]

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING WHO MUST BE BONDED

§ 453.2 Provisions of the statute.

(a) Section 502(a) requires that:

Every officer, agent, shop steward, or other representative or employee of any labor organization (other than a labor organization whose property and annual financial receipts do not exceed \$5,000 in value), or of a trust in which a labor organization is interested, who handles funds or other property thereof shall be bonded to provide protection against loss by reason of acts of fraud or dishonesty on his part directly or through connivance with others.

(b) This section sets forth, in the above language and in its further provisions, the minimum requirements regarding the bonding of the specified personnel. There is no provision in the Act which precludes the bonding of such personnel in amounts exceeding those specified in section 502(a). Similarly, the Act contains no provision precluding the bonding of such personnel as are not required to be bonded by this section. Such excess coverage may be in any amount and in any form otherwise lawful and acceptable to the parties to such bonds.

[28 FR 14394, Dec. 27, 1963, as amended at 30 FR 14925, Dec. 2, 1965]

§ 453.3 Labor organizations within the coverage of section 502(a).

Any labor organization as defined in sections 3(i) and 3(j) of the Act³ is a labor organization within the coverage of section 502(a) unless its property and annual financial receipts do not exceed \$5,000 in value. The determination as to

² *Skidmore v. Swift & Co.*, 323 U.S. 134, 138.

³ See part 451 of this chapter.