

determined by the Secretary, during the 5 marketing years immediately preceding the marketing year for which the determination is being made, excluding the year in which the average price was the highest and the year in which the average price was the lowest in such period, is greater or less than:

(II) The average price received by producers for burley tobacco on the United States auction markets, as determined by the Secretary, during the 5 marketing years immediately preceding the marketing year prior to the marketing year for which the determination is being made, excluding the year in which the average price was the highest and the year in which the average price was the lowest in such period; and

(ii) 33.3 percent of the change, expressed as a cost per pound of tobacco, in the index of prices paid by the tobacco producers from January 1 to December 31 of the calendar year immediately preceding the year in which the determination is made.

The difference between the two 5-year averages (i.e., the difference between (i) (I) and (II)) is 1.5 cents per pound. The difference in the cost index from January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999, is 1.8 cents per pound. Applying these components to the price support formula (1.5 cents per pound, two-thirds weight; 1.8 cents per pound, one-third weight) results in a weighted total of 1.6 cents per pound. As indicated, section 106(f)(7)(a) of the 1949 Act provides that the Secretary may, on the basis of supply and demand conditions, limit the change in the price support level to no less than 65 percent of that amount. However, because the increase in price support is less than the cost of production, the increase was not limited. Accordingly, the 2000 crop of burley tobacco will be supported at 180.5 cents per pound, 1.6 cents higher than in 1999.

List of Subjects

7 CFR Part 723

Acreage allotments, Cigarettes, Marketing quotas, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

7 CFR Part 1464

Loan programs—tobacco, Price support programs—tobacco, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, 7 CFR parts 723 and 1464 are amended as follows:

PART 723—TOBACCO

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Bureau's educational, advisory, and international assistance activities.

Rule 0.17, 16 CFR 0.17 (Bureau of Consumer Protection): The Commission is revising this description to reflect the previous transfer of the agency's public "reading room" operations to this Bureau, complementing the Bureau's other consumer and business education activities, and to include section 13(b) of the FTC Act among the remedial authorities cited in the description.

Rule 0.19, 16 CFR 0.19 (regional offices): The Commission is amending paragraph (a) to revise and update the description of the Regional Offices' responsibilities.

The Administrative Procedure Act does not require prior public notice and comment on these amendments because they relate solely to rules of agency, organization, procedure or practice. 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A). For this reason, the Regulatory Flexibility Act also does not require an initial or final regulatory flexibility analysis. See 5 U.S.C. 603, 604.

List of Subjects in 16 CFR Part 0

Organization and functions
(Government agencies).

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Federal Trade Commission amends Title 16, chapter I, subchapter A, of the Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER A—ORGANIZATION, PROCEDURES AND RULES OF PRACTICE

PART 0—ORGANIZATION

1. Revise the authority for part 0 to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1); 15 U.S.C. 46(g).

2. Amend § 0.2 by adding the following sentence to the end of the section:

§ 0.14 Office of the Administrative Law Judges.

Administrative law judges are officials to whom the Commission, in accordance with law, delegates the initial performance of statutory fact-finding functions and initial rulings on conclusions of law, to be exercised in conformity with Commission decisions and policy directives and with its Rules of Practice.

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11. Revise § 0.16 to read as follows:

§ 0.16 Bureau of Competition.

The Bureau is responsible for enforcing Federal antitrust and trade regulation laws under section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, the Clayton Act, and a number of other special statutes that the Commission is charged with enforcing. The Bureau's work aims to preserve the free market system and assure the unfettered operation of the forces of supply and demand. Its activities seek to ensure price competition, quality products and services and efficient operation of the national economy. The Bureau carries out its responsibilities by investigating alleged law violations, and recommending to the Commission such further action as may be appropriate. Such action may include injunctive and other equitable relief in Federal district court, complaint and litigation before the agency's administrative law judges, formal nonadjudicative settlement of complaints, trade regulation rules, or reports. The Bureau also conducts compliance investigations and initiates proceedings for civil penalties to assure compliance with final Commission orders dealing with competition and trade restraint matters. The Bureau's activities also include business and consumer education and staff advice on competition laws and compliance, and liaison functions with respect to foreign antitrust and competition law enforcement agencies and organizations, including requests for international enforcement assistance.

12. Revise § 0.17 to read as follows:

§ 0.17 Bureau of Consumer Protection.

The Bureau investigates unfair or deceptive acts or practices under section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act as well as potential violations of numerous special statutes which the Commission is charged with enforcing. It prosecutes before the agency's administrative law judges alleged violations of law after issuance of a complaint by the Commission or obtains through negotiation consented-to orders, which must be accepted and issued by the Commission. In consultation with

the General Counsel, the Bureau may also seek injunctive or other equitable relief under section 13(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act. The Bureau participates in trade regulation rulemaking proceedings under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act and other rulemaking proceedings under statutory authority. It investigates compliance with final orders and trade regulation rules and seeks civil penalties or consumer redress for their violation, as well as injunctive and other equitable relief under section 13(b) of the Act. In addition, the Bureau seeks to educate both consumers and the business community about the laws it enforces, and to assist and cooperate with other state, local, foreign, and international agencies and organizations in consumer protection enforcement and regulatory matters. The Bureau also maintains the agency's public reference facilities, where the public may inspect and copy a current index of opinions, orders, statements of policy and interpretations, staff manuals and instructions that affect any member of the public, and other public records of the Commission.

13. Amend § 0.19 by revising paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 0.19 The Regional Offices.

(a) These offices are investigatory arms of the Commission, and have responsibility for investigational, trial, compliance, and consumer educational activities as delegated by the Commission. They are under the general supervision of the Office of the Executive Director, and clear their activities through the appropriate operating Bureaus.

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By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Internal Revenue Service****26 CFR Part 301**

[TD 8911]

RIN 1545-AV92

Relief for Service in Combat Zone and for Presidentially Declared Disaster

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Final regulations.