
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

**Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Health**

**Departmental Decision To Apply Pub.
L. 96-517 to Inventions Made Under
Grants and Contracts Funded Prior to
July 1, 1981**

Notice is hereby given of the
Department's decision to make Pub. L.
96-517 applicable to inventions made in
performance of grants and contracts
initially funded prior to July 1, 1981.

The new patent law gives nonprofit
organizations and small business firms a
first option to take ownership of
inventions developed under Department
of Health and Human Services grants,
contracts, and cooperative agreements,
initially funded *after* July 1, 1981. OMB
Bulletin 81-22, superseded by Circular
A-124, gives the Department the option
of applying the new law to inventions
made *after* July 1, 1981, in the
performance of grants, contracts, and
cooperative agreements initially funded
before July 1, 1981.

Accordingly, the provisions of Pub. L.
96-517 are to be applied to all inventions
made *after* July 1, 1981, in performance
of Department grants, contracts, and
cooperative agreements irrespective of
the date of the funding agreement.

Dated: July 9, 1982.

(5 U.S.C. 301; 42 U.S.C. 241)

James F. Dickson III,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Health.

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