IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE EASTERN DIVISION

ROBERT HOLMAN,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) No. 1:21-cv-01085-STA-jay
THOMAS J. VILSACK, in his official capacity as Secretary of Agriculture; and ZACH DUCHENEAUX, in his official capacity as Administrator of the Farm Service Agency, Defendants.))))))))))))

DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF REPEAL OF ARPA SECTION 1005 AND DISMISSAL OF RELATED CLASS ACTION

Defendants Thomas J. Vilsack, in his official capacity as Secretary of Agriculture, and Zach Ducheneaux, in his official capacity as Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (together, "Defendants"), hereby notify the Court of the recent repeal of Section 1005 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the dismissal of the class action *Miller v. Vilsack*, 4:21-cv-595 (N.D. Tex.). On June 2, 2021, Plaintiff Robert Holman initiated this action, challenging Section 1005 of the American Rescue Plan Act on equal protection grounds. Compl., ECF No. 1. On June 30, 2021, the court in *Miller* certified two classes bringing materially identical equal protection challenges to Section 1005. Because Plaintiff is a member of those classes, Defendants moved for, and the Court eventually granted, a stay of this action pending resolution of the *Miller* litigation. Order, ECF No. 79.

On August 16, 2022, the President signed into law the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr5376/BILLS-117hr5376enr.pdf. Section 22008 of the Act expressly repeals Section 1005 of ARPA and thus moots the actions challenging Section 1005.

On August 29, 2022, in light of the repeal of Section 1005, the parties in the *Miller* action stipulated to dismissal of the action because "the constitutional challenge to Section 1005 is moot." *See* Joint Stipulation of Dismissal, ECF No. 236, *Miller*, 4:21-cv-595 (attached as Ex. A). The *Miller* court subsequently terminated the case. *See* August 30, 2022 docket entry, *id*.

The parties are conferring on next steps in the case. If Plaintiff does not voluntarily dismiss or stipulate to dismissal of the case by September 15, 2022, Defendants will move to dismiss this case as moot on that date.

Dated: September 6, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN M. BOYNTON
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

LESLEY FARBY Assistant Branch Director Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

/s/ Kyla M. Snow

KYLA M. SNOW (Ohio Bar No. 96662) Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch 1100 L Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20005 Tel: (202) 514-3259 / Fax: (202) 616-8460

Kyla.snow@usdoj.gov

Counsel for Defendants

Exhibit A

Joint Stipulation of Dismissal

ECF No. 236, Miller v. Vilsack, No. 4:21-cv-595 (N.D. Tex.)

August 29, 2022

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

Sid Miller, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Tom Vilsack, in his official capacity as Secretary of Agriculture,

Defendant,

and

Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund, et al.

Intervenors.

Case No. 4:21-cv-00595-O

JOINT STIPULATION OF DISMISSAL

The parties stipulate to dismiss this action without prejudice. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 41. The parties agree the constitutional challenge to Section 1005 is moot. Notice to the class is not necessary because the dismissal is without prejudice and does not bind the members of the class. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(e).

Respectfully submitted.

/s/ Jonathan F. Mitchell JONATHAN F. MITCHELL Texas Bar No. 24075463 Mitchell Law PLLC 111 Congress Avenue, Suite 400 Austin, Texas 78701 (512) 686-3940 (phone) (512) 686-3941 (fax) jonathan@mitchell.law BRIAN M. BOYNTON Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

LESLEY FARBY Assistant Branch Director Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

/s/ Michael F. Knapp MICHAEL F. KNAPP

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Counsel for Plaintiffs and the Certified Classes

/s/ Chase J. Cooper CHASE J. COOPER Texas Bar No. 24087342 Winston & Strawn LLP 2121 N. Pearl Street, Suite 900 Dallas, Texas 75201 (214) 453-6500 (phone) ccooper@winston.com

Counsel for Intervenor

/s/ David Muraskin
DAVID MURASKIN
1620 L Street NW, Suite 630
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 797-8600 (phone)
dmuraskin@publicjustice.net

Counsel for Intervenor

Dated: August 29, 2022

Kyla M. Snow Trial Attorneys United States Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch 1100 L Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 305-8356 (phone) (202) 616-8460 (fax) michael.f.knapp@usdoj.gov kyla.snow@usdoj.gov

Counsel for Defendant

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on August 29, 2022, I served this document through CM/ECF

upon:

MICHAEL F. KNAPP
KYLA M. SNOW
Trial Attorneys
United States Department of Justice
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch
1100 L Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 305-8356 (phone)
(202) 616-8460 (fax)
michael.f.knapp@usdoj.gov
kyla.snow@usdoj.gov

Counsel for Defendants

CHASE J. COOPER
Winston & Strawn LLP
2121 N. Pearl Street, Suite 900
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 453-6500 (phone)
ccooper@winston.com

Counsel for Intervenor

David Muraskin 1620 L Street NW, Suite 630 Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 797-8600 (phone) dmuraskin@publicjustice.net

Counsel for Intervenor

/s/ Jonathan F. Mitchell JONATHAN F. MITCHELL Counsel for Plaintiffs and the Certified Classes