

NATIONAL HOUSING ACT

[Public Law 479, 73d Congress; 48 Stat. 1252; 12 U.S.C. 1716 et seq.]

[As Amended Through P.L. 117–286, Enacted December 27, 2022]

【Currency: This publication is a compilation of the text of Chapter 847 of the 73rd Congress. It was last amended by the public law listed in the As Amended Through note above and below at the bottom of each page of the pdf version and reflects current law through the date of the enactment of the public law listed at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/comps/>】

【Note: While this publication does not represent an official version of any Federal statute, substantial efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of its contents. The official version of Federal law is found in the United States Statutes at Large and in the United States Code. The legal effect to be given to the Statutes at Large and the United States Code is established by statute (1 U.S.C. 112, 204).】

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That 【12 U.S.C. 1701】 *this Act may be cited as the “National Housing Act.”*

TITLE I—HOUSING RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. 【12 U.S.C. 1702】 The powers conferred by this Act shall be exercised by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”).

In order to carry out the provisions of this title and titles II, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and XI, the Secretary may establish such agencies, accept and utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services, utilize such Federal officers and employees, and, with the consent of the State, such State and local officers and employees, and appoint such other officers and employees as he may find necessary, and may prescribe their authorities, duties, responsibilities, and tenure and fix their compensation. The Secretary may delegate any of the functions and powers conferred upon him under this title and titles II, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and XI, to such officers, agents, and employees as he may designate or appoint and may make such expenditures (including expenditures for personal services and rent at the seat of government and elsewhere for law books and books of reference, and for paper, printing, and binding) as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and titles II, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and XI without regard to any other provisions of law governing the expenditure of public funds. All such compensation, expenses, and allowances shall be paid out of funds made available by this Act: *Provided, That*, notwithstanding any other provisions of law except provisions of law hereafter enacted expressly in limitation hereof, all expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development in connection with the examina-

tion and insurance of loans or investments under any title of this Act, all properly capitalized expenditures, and other necessary expenses not attributable to general overhead in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles shall be considered non-administrative and payable from funds made available by this Act, except that, unless made pursuant to specific authorization by the Congress therefor, expenditures made in any fiscal year pursuant to this proviso, other than the payment of insurance claims and other than expenditures (including services on a contract or fee basis, but not including other personal services) in connection with the acquisition, protection, completion, operation, maintenance, improvement, or disposition of real or personal property of the Department acquired under authority of this Act, shall not exceed 35 per centum of the income received by the Department of Housing and Urban Development from premiums and fees during the preceding fiscal year. Except with respect to title III, for the purposes of this section, the term "nonadministrative" shall not include contract expenses that are not capitalized or routinely deducted from the proceeds of sales, and such expenses shall not be payable from funds made available by this Act. The Secretary shall, in carrying out the provisions of this title and titles II, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and XI be authorized, in his official capacity to sue and be sued in any court of competent jurisdiction, State or Federal.

INSURANCE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

SEC. 2. [12 U.S.C. 1703] (a) The Secretary is authorized and empowered upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to insure banks, trust companies, personal finance companies, mortgage companies, building and loan associations, installment lending companies, and other such financial institutions, which the Secretary finds to be qualified by experience or facilities and approves as eligible for credit insurance, against losses which they may sustain as a result of loans and advances of credit, and purchases of obligations representing loans and advances of credit, made by them for the purpose of (i) financing alterations, repairs, and improvements upon or in connection with existing structures or manufactured homes, and the building of new structures, upon urban, suburban, or rural real property (including the restoration, rehabilitation, rebuilding, and replacement of such improvements which have been damaged or destroyed by earthquake, conflagration, tornado, hurricane, cyclone, flood, or other catastrophe), by the owners thereof or by lessees of such real property under a lease expiring not less than six months after the maturity of the loan or advance of credit; and for the purpose of (ii) financing the purchase of a manufactured home to be used by the owner as his principal residence or financing the purchase of a lot on which to place such home and paying expenses reasonably necessary for the appropriate preparation of such lot, including the installation of utility connections, sanitary facilities, and paving, and the construction of a suitable pad, or financing only the acquisition of such a lot either with or without such preparation by an owner of a manufactured home; and for the purpose of financing the preservation of historic structures, and, as used in this section, the term "historic struc-

tures” means residential structures which are registered in the National Register of Historic Places or which are certified by the Secretary of the Interior to conform to National Register criteria; and the term “preservation” means restoration or rehabilitation undertaken for such purposes as are approved by the Secretary in regulations issued by him, after consulting with the Secretary of the Interior. Other than in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place such a home (or both), in no case shall the insurance granted by the Secretary under this section to any such financial institution on loans, advances of credit, and purchases made by such financial institution for such purposes exceed 10 per centum of the total amount of such loans, advances of credit, and purchases. With respect to any loan, advance of credit, or purchase, the amount of any claim for loss on any such individual loan, advance of credit, or purchase paid by the Secretary under the provisions of this section to a lending institution shall not exceed 90 per centum of such loss.

After the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954, (i) the Secretary shall not enter into contracts for insurance pursuant to this section except with lending institutions which are subject to the inspection and supervision of a governmental agency required by law to make periodic examinations of their books and accounts, and which the Secretary finds to be qualified by experience or facilities to make and service such loans, advances or purchases, and with such other lending institutions which the Secretary approves as eligible for insurance pursuant to this section on the basis of their credit and their experience or facilities to make and service such loans, advances or purchases; (ii) only such items as substantially protect or improve the basic livability or utility of properties shall be eligible for financing under this section, and therefore the Secretary shall from time to time declare ineligible for financing under this section any item, product, alteration, repair, improvement, or class thereof which he determines would not substantially protect or improve the basic livability or utility of such properties, and he may also declare ineligible for financing under this section any item which he determines is especially subject to selling abuses; and (iii) the Secretary is hereby authorized and directed, by such regulations or procedures as he shall deem advisable, to prevent the use of any financial assistance under this section (1) with respect to new residential structures (other than manufactured homes) that have not been completed and occupied for at least six months, or (2) which would, through multiple loans, result in an outstanding aggregate loan balance with respect to the same structure exceeding the dollar amount limitation prescribed in this subsection for the type of loan involved: *Provided*, That this clause (iii) may in the discretion of the Secretary be waived with respect to the period of occupancy or completion of any such new residential structures. The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed, with respect to manufactured homes to be financed under this section, to (i) prescribe minimum property standards to assure the livability and durability of the manufactured home and the suitability of the site on which the manufactured home is to be located; and (ii) obtain assurances from the borrower that the manufactured home will be placed on a site which complies with the standards pre-

scribed by the Secretary and with local zoning and other applicable local requirements.

The insurance authority provided under this section may be made available with respect to any existing manufactured home that has not been insured under this section if such home was constructed in accordance with the standards issued under the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 and it meets standards similar to the minimum property standards applicable to existing homes insured under title II.

Alterations, repairs, and improvements upon or in connection with existing structures may include the provision of fire safety equipment, energy conserving improvements, or the installation of solar energy systems.¹ As used in this section—

(1) the term “fire safety equipment” means any device or facility which is designed to reduce the risk of personal injury or property damage resulting from fire and is in conformity with such criteria and standards as shall be prescribed by the Secretary;

(2) the term “energy conserving improvements” means the purchase and installation of weatherization material as defined in section 412(9) of the Energy Conservation in Existing Buildings Act of 1976; and²

(3) the term “solar energy system” means any addition, alteration, or improvement to an existing or new structure which is designed to utilize wind energy or solar energy either of the active type based on mechanically forced energy transfer or of the passive type based on convective, conductive, or radiant energy transfer or some combination of these types to reduce the energy requirements of that structure from other energy sources, and which is in conformity with such criteria and standards as shall be prescribed by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Energy.⁷

(4) the terms “evaluation”, “reduction”, and “lead-based paint hazard” have the same meanings given those terms in section 1004 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992.

(b)(1) Except as provided in the last sentence of this paragraph, no insurance shall be granted under this section to any such financial institution with respect to any obligation representing any such loan, advance of credit, or purchase by it if the amount of such loan, advance of credit, or purchase exceeds—

(A)(i) \$25,000 if made for the purpose of financing alterations, repairs and improvements upon or in connection with existing single-family structure; and

(ii) \$25,090 if made for the purpose of financing alterations, repairs and improvements upon or in connection with existing manufactured homes;

¹ Section 1012(k)(1)(A) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, Pub. L. 102–550, amended the “fifth paragraph” of this subsection by inserting after the first sentence the following: “Alterations, repairs, and improvements upon or in connection with existing structures may also include the evaluation and reduction of lead-based paint hazards.”. The amendment could not be executed and the matter to be inserted by the amendment was probably intended to be inserted after the first sentence of this paragraph (the fourth paragraph).

² So in law.

³ Indent for continuation text so in law.

(B) \$60,000 or an average amount of \$12,000 per family unit if made for the purpose of financing the alteration, repair, improvement, or conversion of an existing structure used or to be used as an apartment house or a dwelling for two or more families;

(C) \$69,678 if made for the purpose of financing the purchase of a manufactured home;

(D) \$92,904 if made for the purpose of financing the purchase of a manufactured home and a suitably developed lot on which to place the home; and

(E) \$23,226 if made for the purpose of financing the purchase, by an owner of a manufactured home which is the principal residence of that owner, of a suitably developed lot on which to place that manufactured home, and if the owner certifies that he or she will place the manufactured home on the lot acquired with such loan within 6 months after the date of such loan.

(F) \$15,000 per family unit if made for the purpose of financing the preservation of an historic structure; and

(G) such principal amount as the Secretary may prescribe if made for the purpose of financing fire safety equipment for a nursing home, extended health care facility, intermediate health care facility, or other comparable health care facility.

The³ Secretary shall, by regulation, annually increase the dollar amount limitations in subparagraphs (A)(ii), (C), (D), and (E) (as such limitations may have been previously adjusted under this sentence) in accordance with the index established pursuant to paragraph (9).

(2) Because of prevailing higher costs, the Secretary may, by regulation, in Alaska, Guam, or Hawaii, increase any dollar amount limitation on manufactured homes or manufactured home lot loans contained in this subsection by not to exceed 40 per centum. In other areas, the maximum dollar amounts specified in subsections (b)(1)(D) and (b)(1)(E) may be increased on an area-by-area basis to the extent the Secretary deems necessary, but in no case may such limits, as so increased, exceed the lesser of (A) 185 percent of the dollar amount specified, or (B) the dollar amount specified as increased by the same percentage by which 95 percent of the median one-family house price in the area (as determined by the Secretary) exceeds \$67,500.

(3) No insurance shall be granted under this section to any such financial institution with respect to any obligation representing any such loan, advance of credit, or purchase by it if the term to maturity of such loan, advance of credit or purchase exceeds—

(A)(i) twenty years and thirty-two days if made for the purpose of financing alterations, repairs, and improvements upon or in connection with an existing single-family structure; and

(ii) fifteen years and thirty-two days if made for the purpose of financing alterations, repairs, and improvements upon or in connection with an existing manufactured home;

³ Indent for continuation text so in law.

(B) twenty years and thirty-two days if made for the purpose of financing the alteration, repair, improvement or conversion of an existing structure used or to be used as an apartment house or a dwelling for two or more families;

(C) twenty years and thirty-two days (twenty-three years and thirty-two days in the case of a manufactured home composed of two or more modules) if made for the purpose of financing the purchase of a manufactured home;

(D) twenty years and thirty-two days (twenty-five years and thirty-two days in the case of a manufactured home composed of two or more modules) if made for the purpose of financing the purchase of a manufactured home and a suitably developed lot on which to place the home;

(E) twenty years and thirty-two days if made for the purpose of financing the purchase, by the owner of a manufactured home which is the principal residence of that owner, of a suitably developed lot on which to place that manufactured home;

(F) fifteen years and thirty-two days if made for the purpose of financing the preservation of an historic structure;

(G) such term to maturity as the Secretary may prescribe if made for the purpose of financing the construction of a new structure for use in whole or in part for agricultural purposes; and

(H) such term to maturity as the Secretary may prescribe if made for the purpose of financing fire safety equipment for a nursing home, extended health care facility, intermediate health care facility, or other comparable health care facility.

(4) For the purpose of this subsection—

(A) the term “developed lot” includes an interest in a condominium project (including any interest in the common areas) or a share in a cooperative association;

(B) a loan to finance the purchase of a manufactured home or a manufactured home and lot may also finance the purchase of a garage, patio, carport, or other comparable appurtenance; and

(C) a loan to finance the purchase of a manufactured home or a manufactured home and lot shall be secured by a first lien upon such home or home and lot, its furnishings, equipment, accessories, and appurtenances.

(5) No insurance shall be granted under this section to any such financial institution with respect to any obligation representing any such loan, advance of credit, or purchase by it unless the obligation has such maturity, bears such insurance premium charges, and contains such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary shall prescribe, in order to make credit available for the purpose of this title. Any such obligation with respect to which insurance is granted under this section shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the borrower and the financial institution.

(6)(A) Any obligation with respect to which insurance is granted under this section may be refinanced and extended in accordance with such terms and conditions as the Secretary may pre-

scribe, but in no event for an additional amount or term in excess of any applicable maximum provided for in this subsection.

(B) The owner of a manufactured home lot purchased without assistance under this section but otherwise meeting the requirements of this section may refinance such lot under this section in connection with the purchase of a manufactured home if the borrower certifies that the home and lot is or will be his or her principal residence within six months after the date of the loan.

(C) The owner-occupant of a manufactured home or a home and lot which was purchased without assistance under this section but which otherwise meets the requirements of this section may refinance such home or home and lot under this section if the home was constructed in accordance with standards established under section 604 of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974.

(7) With respect to the financing of alterations, repairs, and improvements to existing structures or the building of new structures as authorized under clause (i) of the first sentence of section 2(a), any loan broker (as defined by the Secretary) or any other party having a financial interest in the making of such a loan or advance of credit or in providing assistance to the borrower in preparing the loan application or otherwise assisting the borrower in obtaining the loan or advance of credit who knowingly (as defined in section 536(g) of this Act) submits to any such financial institution or to the Secretary false information shall be subject to a civil money penalty in the amount and manner provided under section 536 with respect to mortgagees and lenders under this Act.

(8) **INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING LOANS.**—Any contract of insurance with respect to loans, advances of credit, or purchases in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place a manufactured home (or both) for a financial institution that is executed under this title after the date of the enactment of the FHA Manufactured Housing Loan Modernization Act of 2008 by the Secretary shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of such financial institution for insurance, and the validity of any contract of insurance so executed shall be incontestable in the hands of the bearer from the date of the execution of such contract, except for fraud or misrepresentation on the part of such institution.

(9) **ANNUAL INDEXING OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING LOANS.**—The Secretary shall develop a method of indexing in order to annually adjust the loan limits established in subparagraphs (A)(ii), (C), (D), and (E) of this subsection. Such index shall be based on the manufactured housing price data collected by the United States Census Bureau. The Secretary shall establish such index no later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the FHA Manufactured Housing Loan Modernization Act of 2008.

(10) **FINANCIAL SOUNDNESS OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING PROGRAM.**—The Secretary shall establish such underwriting criteria for loans and advances of credit in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place a manufactured home (or both), including such loans and advances represented by obligations purchased by financial institutions, as may be

necessary to ensure that the program under this title for insurance for financial institutions against losses from such loans, advances of credit, and purchases is financially sound.

(11) LEASEHOLD REQUIREMENTS.—No insurance shall be granted under this section to any such financial institution with respect to any obligation representing any such loan, advance of credit, or purchase by it, made for the purposes of financing a manufactured home which is intended to be situated in a manufactured home community pursuant to a lease, unless such lease—

(A) expires not less than 3 years after the origination date of the obligation;

(B) is renewable upon the expiration of the original 3 year term by successive 1 year terms; and

(C) requires the lessor to provide the lessee written notice of termination of the lease not less than 180 days prior to the expiration of the current lease term in the event the lessee is required to move due to the closing of the manufactured home community, and further provides that failure to provide such notice to the mortgagor in a timely manner will cause the lease term, at its expiration, to automatically renew for an additional 1 year term.

(c) HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY.—

(1) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may—

(A) deal with, complete, rent, renovate, modernize, insure, or assign or sell at public or private sale, or otherwise dispose of, for cash or credit in the Secretary's discretion, and upon such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Secretary shall determine to be reasonable, any real or personal property conveyed to or otherwise acquired by the Secretary, in connection with the payment of insurance heretofore or hereafter granted under this title, including any evidence of debt, contract, claim, personal property, or security assigned to or held by him in connection with the payment of insurance heretofore or hereafter granted under this section; and

(B) pursue to final collection, by way of compromise or otherwise, all claims assigned to or held by the Secretary and all legal or equitable rights accruing to the Secretary in connection with the payment of such insurance, including unpaid insurance premiums owed in connection with insurance made available by this title.

(2) ADVERTISEMENTS FOR PROPOSALS.—Section 3709 of the Revised Statutes shall not be construed to apply to any contract of hazard insurance or to any purchase or contract for services or supplies on account of such property if the amount thereof does not exceed \$25,000.

(3) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—The power to convey and to execute in the name of the Secretary, deeds of conveyance, deeds of release, assignments and satisfactions of mortgages, and any other written instrument relating to real or personal property or any interest therein heretofore or hereafter acquired by the Secretary pursuant to the provisions of this title

may be exercised by an officer appointed by the Secretary without the execution of any express delegation of power or power of attorney. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the Secretary from delegating such power by order or by power of attorney, in the Secretary's discretion, to any officer or agent the Secretary may appoint.

(d) The Secretary is authorized and empowered, under such regulations as he may prescribe, to transfer to any such approved financial institution any insurance in connection with any loans and advances of credit which may be sold to it by another approved financial institution.

(e) The Secretary is authorized to waive compliance with regulations heretofore or hereafter prescribed by him with respect to the interest and maturity of and the terms, conditions, and restrictions under which loans, advances of credit, and purchases may be insured under this section and section 6, if in his judgment the enforcement of such regulations would impose an injustice upon an insured institution which has substantially complied with such regulations in good faith and refunded or credited any excess charge made, and where such waiver does not involve an increase of the obligation of the Secretary beyond the obligation which would have been involved if the regulations had been fully complied with.

(f)(1) PREMIUM CHARGES.—The Secretary shall fix a premium charge for the insurance hereafter granted under this section, but in the case of any obligation representing any loan, advance of credit, or purchase, such premium charge shall not exceed an amount equivalent to 1 per centum per annum of the net proceeds of such loan, advance of credit, or purchase, for the term of such obligation, and such premium charge shall be payable in advance by the financial institution and shall be paid at such time and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary.

(2) MANUFACTURED HOME LOANS⁴.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in the case of a loan, advance of credit, or purchase in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place such a home (or both), the premium charge for the insurance granted under this section shall be paid by the borrower under the loan or advance of credit, as follows:

(A) At the time of the making of the loan, advance of credit, or purchase, a single premium payment in an amount not to exceed 2.25 percent of the amount of the original insured principal obligation.

(B) In addition to the premium under subparagraph (A), annual premium payments during the term of the loan, advance, or obligation purchased in an amount not exceeding 1.0 percent of the remaining insured principal balance (excluding the portion of the remaining balance attributable to the premium collected under subparagraph (A) and without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments).

(C) Premium charges under this paragraph shall be established in amounts that are sufficient, but do not exceed the minimum amounts necessary, to maintain a negative credit

⁴Initial capitalization of the first letter of the second and third words in the heading so in law.

subsidy for the program under this section for insurance of loans, advances of credit, or purchases in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place such a home (or both), as determined based upon risk to the Federal Government under existing underwriting requirements.

(D) The Secretary may increase the limitations on premium payments to percentages above those set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B), but only if necessary, and not in excess of the minimum increase necessary, to maintain a negative credit subsidy as described in subparagraph (C).

(g) Any payment for loss made to an approved financial institution under this section shall be final and incontestable after two years from the date the claim was certified for payment by the Secretary, in the absence of fraud or misrepresentation on the part of such institution, unless a demand for repurchase of the obligation shall have been made on behalf of the United States prior to the expiration of such two-year period.

(h) The Secretary is authorized and directed to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

(i) For purposes of this section, the term “manufactured home” includes any elder cottage housing opportunity unit that is small, freestanding, barrier-free, energy efficient, removable, and designed to be installed adjacent to an existing 1- to 4-family dwelling.

[LOANS TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS]

[SEC. 3. [Repealed.]]

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

SEC. 4. [42 U.S.C. 1705] For the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this title and titles II and III the President, in his discretion, is authorized to provide such funds or any portion thereof by allotment to the Secretary from any funds that are available, or may hereafter be made available, to the President for emergency purposes.

[ANNUAL REPORT]

[SEC. 5. [Repealed.]]

[INSURANCE OF LOANS FOR REHABILITATION OF PROPERTY DAMAGED BY FIRES, FLOODS, AND STORMS]

[SEC. 6. [Repealed.]]

TAXATION

SEC. 7. [42 U.S.C. 1706b] Nothing in this title shall be construed to exempt any real property acquired and held by the Secretary in connection with the payment of insurance heretofore or hereafter granted under this title from taxation by any State or political subdivision thereof, to the same extent, according to its value, as other real property is taxed.

INSURANCE OF MORTGAGES

SEC. 8. [12 U.S.C. 1706c] (a) To assist in providing adequate housing for families of low and moderate income, particularly in suburban and outlying areas, this section is designed to supplement systems of mortgage insurance under other provisions of the National Housing Act by making feasible the insurance of mortgages covering properties in areas where it is not practicable to obtain conformity with many of the requirements essential to the insurance of mortgages on housing in built-up urban areas. The Secretary is authorized upon application by the mortgagee, to insure, as hereinafter provided, any mortgage (as defined in section 201 of this Act) offered to him which is eligible for insurance as hereinafter provided, and, upon such terms as the Secretary may prescribe, to make commitments for the insuring of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon: *Provided*, That the aggregate amount of principal obligations of all mortgages insured under this section and outstanding at any one time shall not exceed \$100,000,000, except that with the approval of the President such aggregate amount may be increased at any time or times by additional amounts aggregating not more than \$150,000,000 upon a determination by the President, taking into account the general effect of any such increase upon conditions in the building industry and upon the national economy, that such increase is in the public interest: *And provided further*, That no mortgage shall be insured under this section after the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954, except pursuant to a commitment to insure issued on or before such date.

(b) To be eligible for insurance under this section, a mortgage shall—

(1) have been made to, and be held by, a mortgagee approved by the Secretary as responsible and able to service the mortgage properly;

(2) involve a principal obligation (including such initial service charges, appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in an amount not to exceed \$5,700, and not to exceed 95 per centum of the appraised value, as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance, of a property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a single-family resident, and which is approved for mortgage insurance prior to the beginning of construction: *Provided*, That the mortgagor shall be the owner and occupant⁵ of the property at the time of insurance and shall have paid on account of the property at least 5 per centum of the Secretary's estimate of the cost of acquisition in cash or its equivalent, or shall be the builder constructing the dwelling, in which case the principal obligation shall not exceed 85 per centum of the appraised value of the property or \$5,100: *Provided further*, That the Secretary finds that the project with respect to which the mortgage is executed is an acceptable risk, giving consideration to the need for providing adequate housing for families of low and moderate income particularly in suburban and out-

⁵ See section 216 of the National Housing Act, which is set forth, *post*, this part.

lying areas: *And provided further*, That, where the mortgagor is the owner and occupant of the property and establishes (to the satisfaction of the Secretary) that his home, which he occupied as an owner or as a tenant, was destroyed or damaged to such an extent that reconstruction is required as a result of a flood, fire, hurricane, earthquake, storm or other catastrophe, which the President, pursuant to sections 102(2) and 401 of the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act⁵ has determined to be a major disaster, such maximum dollar limitation may be increased by the Secretary from \$5,700 to \$7,000, and the percentage limitation may be increased by the Secretary from 95 per centum to 100 per centum of the appraised value;⁷

(3) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary but not to exceed thirty years from the date of insurance of the mortgage;

(4) contain complete amortization provisions satisfactory to the Secretary requiring periodic payments by the mortgagor not in excess of his reasonable ability to pay as determined by the Secretary;

(5) bear interest (exclusive of premium charges for insurance and service charges, if any) as not to exceed 5 per centum per annum on the amount of the principal obligation outstanding at any time;

(6) provide, in a manner satisfactory to the Secretary, for the application of the mortgagor's periodic payments (exclusive of the amount allocated to interest and to the premium charge which is required for mortgage insurance as hereinafter provided and to the service charge, if any) to amortization of the principal of the mortgage; and

(7) Contain such terms and provisions with respect to insurance, repairs, alterations, payment of taxes, service charges, default reserves, delinquency charges, foreclosure proceedings, anticipation of maturity, and other matters as the Secretary may in his discretion prescribe.

(c) The Secretary is authorized to fix a premium charge for the insurance of mortgages under this section, but in the case of any mortgage, such charge shall not be less than an amount equivalent to one-half of 1 per centum per annum nor more than an amount equivalent to 1 per centum per annum of the amount of the principal obligation of the mortgage outstanding at any time, without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments. Such premium charges shall be payable by the mortgagee, either in cash or in debentures issued by the Secretary under this section at par plus accrued interest, in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary: *Provided*, That the Secretary may require the payment of one or more such premium charges at the time the mortgage is insured, at such discount rate as he may prescribe not in excess of the interest rate specified in the mortgage. If the Secretary finds, upon the presentation of a mortgage for insurance and the tender of the initial premium charge or charges so require, that the mortgage complies with the provisions of this section, such mortgage may be accepted for insurance by endorsement or otherwise as the Secretary may prescribe. In the event that the principal obligation of any mortgage accepted for insurance under this section is paid

in full prior to the maturity date, the Secretary is further authorized, in his discretion, to require the payment by the mortgagee of an adjusted premium charge in such amount as the Secretary determines to be equitable, but not in excess of the aggregate amount of the premium charges that the mortgagee would otherwise have been required to pay if the mortgage had continued to be insured until such maturity date; and in the event that the principal obligation is paid in full as herein set forth, the Secretary is authorized to refund to the mortgagee for the account of the mortgagor all, or such portion as he shall determine to be equitable, of the current unearned premium charges theretofore paid.

(d) The Secretary may, at any time under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, consent to the release of the mortgagor from his liability under the mortgage or the credit instrument secured thereby, or consent to the release of parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage.

(e) Any contract of insurance executed by the Secretary under this section shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of the mortgage for insurance, and the validity of any contract of insurance so executed shall be incontestable in the hands of an approved mortgagee from the date of the execution of such contract, except for fraud or misrepresentation on the part of such approved mortgagee.

(f) In any case in which the mortgagee under a mortgage insured under this section shall have foreclosed and taken possession of the mortgaged property in accordance with the regulations of, and within a period to be determined by, the Secretary, or shall, with the consent of the Secretary, have otherwise acquired such property from the mortgagor after default, the mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as provided in section 204(a) of this Act with respect to mortgages insured under section 203(b)(2)(D) of this Act.

(g) Subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), and (k) of section 204 of this Act shall be applicable to mortgages insured under this section except that all references therein to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund or the Fund shall be construed to refer to the General Insurance Fund, and all references therein to section 203 shall be construed to refer to this section: *Provided*, That debentures issued in connection with mortgages insured under this section 8 shall have the same tax exemption as debentures issued in connection with mortgages insured under section 203 of this Act.

APPLICABILITY

SEC. 9. [12 U.S.C. 1706d] The provisions of sections 2 and 8 shall be applicable in the several States and Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

SEC. 10. [12 U.S.C. 1706f] PROHIBITION AGAINST KICKBACKS AND UNEARNED FEES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subsection (b), the provisions of sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) shall apply to each sale of a manufactured home financed with an FHA-in-

sured loan or extension of credit, as well as to services rendered in connection with such transactions.

(b) **AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.**—The Secretary is authorized to determine the manner and extent to which the provisions of sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) may reasonably be applied to the transactions described in subsection (a), and to grant such exemptions as may be necessary to achieve the purposes of this section.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section—

(1) the term “federally related mortgage loan” as used in sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) shall include an FHA-insured loan or extension of credit made to a borrower for the purpose of purchasing a manufactured home that the borrower intends to occupy as a personal residence; and

(2) the term “real estate settlement service” as used in sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) shall include any service rendered in connection with a loan or extension of credit insured by the Federal Housing Administration for the purchase of a manufactured home.

(d) **UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES.**—In connection with the purchase of a manufactured home financed with a loan or extension of credit insured by the Federal Housing Administration under this title, the Secretary shall prohibit acts or practices in connection with loans or extensions of credit that the Secretary finds to be unfair, deceptive, or otherwise not in the interests of the borrower.

TITLE II—MORTGAGE INSURANCE

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 201. [12 U.S.C. 1707] As used in section 203 of this title—

(a) The term “mortgage” means (A) a first mortgage on real estate, in fee simple, (B) a first mortgage on a leasehold on real estate (i) under a lease for not less than ninety-nine years which is renewable, or (ii) under a lease having a period of not less than ten years to run beyond the maturity date of the mortgage, or (C) a first mortgage given to secure the unpaid purchase price of a fee interest in, or long-term leasehold interest in, real estate consisting of a one-family unit in a multifamily project, including a project in which the dwelling units are attached, or are manufactured housing units, semi-detached, or detached, and an undivided interest in the common areas and facilities which serve the project; and the term “first mortgage” means such classes of first liens as are commonly given to secure advances on, or the unpaid purchase price of, real estate, under the laws of the State in which the real estate is located, together with the credit instrument, if any, secured thereby.

(b) The term “mortgagee” includes the original lender under a mortgage, and his successors and assigns approved by the Sec-

retary; and the term “mortgagor” includes the original borrower under a mortgage and his successors and assigns.

(c) The term “maturity date” means the date on which the mortgage indebtedness would be extinguished if paid in accordance with periodic payments provided for in the mortgage.

(d) The term “State” includes the several States and Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

(e) The term “family member” means, with respect to a mortgagor under such section, a child, parent, or grandparent of the mortgagor (or the mortgagor’s spouse). In determining whether any of the relationships referred to in the preceding sentence exist, a legally adopted son or daughter of an individual (and a child who is a member of an individual’s household, if placed with such individual by an authorized placement agency for legal adoption by such individual), and a foster child of an individual, shall be treated as a child of such individual by blood.

(f) The term “child” means, with respect to a mortgagor under such section, a son, stepson, daughter, or stepdaughter of such mortgagor.

(g) The term “real estate” means land and all natural resources and structures permanently affixed to the land, including residential buildings and stationary manufactured housing. The Secretary may not require, for treatment of any land or other property as real estate for purposes of this title, that such land or property be treated as real estate for purposes of State taxation.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION OPERATIONS

SEC. 202. [12 U.S.C. 1708] (a) MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE FUND.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the provisions of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, there is hereby created a Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund (in this title referred to as the “Fund”), which shall be used by the Secretary to carry out the provisions of this title with respect to mortgages insured under section 203. The Secretary may enter into commitments to guarantee, and may guarantee, such insured mortgages.

(2) LIMIT ON LOAN GUARANTEES.—The authority of the Secretary to enter into commitments to guarantee such insured mortgages shall be effective for any fiscal year only to the extent that the aggregate original principal loan amount under such mortgages, any part of which is guaranteed, does not exceed the amount specified in appropriations Acts for such fiscal year.

(3) FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY.—The Secretary has a responsibility to ensure that the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund remains financially sound.

(4) ANNUAL INDEPENDENT ACTUARIAL STUDY.—The Secretary shall provide for an independent actuarial study of the Fund to be conducted annually, which shall analyze the financial position of the Fund. The Secretary shall submit a report annually to the Congress describing the results of such study and assessing the financial status of the Fund. The report shall

recommend adjustments to underwriting standards, program participation, or premiums, if necessary, to ensure that the Fund remains financially sound. The report shall also include an evaluation of the quality control procedures and accuracy of information utilized in the process of underwriting loans guaranteed by the Fund. Such evaluation shall include a review of the risk characteristics of loans based not only on borrower information and performance, but on risks associated with loans originated or funded by various entities or financial institutions.

(5) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—During each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress for each calendar quarter, which shall specify for mortgages that are obligations of the Fund—

(A) the cumulative volume of loan guarantee commitments that have been made during such fiscal year through the end of the quarter for which the report is submitted;

(B) the types of loans insured, categorized by risk;

(C) any significant changes between actual and projected claim and prepayment activity;

(D) projected versus actual loss rates; and

(E) updated projections of the annual subsidy rates to ensure that increases in risk to the Fund are identified and mitigated by adjustments to underwriting standards, program participation, or premiums, and the financial soundness of the Fund is maintained.

The first quarterly report under this paragraph shall be submitted on the last day of the first quarter of fiscal year 2008, or on the last day of the first full calendar quarter following the enactment of the Building American Homeownership Act of 2008, whichever is later.

(6) ADJUSTMENT OF PREMIUMS.—If, pursuant to the independent actuarial study of the Fund required under paragraph (4), the Secretary determines that the Fund is not meeting the operational goals established under paragraph (7) or there is a substantial probability that the Fund will not maintain its established target subsidy rate, the Secretary may either make programmatic adjustments under this title as necessary to reduce the risk to the Fund, or make appropriate premium adjustments.

(7) OPERATIONAL GOALS.—The operational goals for the Fund are—

(A) to minimize the default risk to the Fund and to homeowners by among other actions instituting fraud prevention quality control screening not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Building American Homeownership Act of 2008; and

(B) to meet the housing needs of the borrowers that the single family mortgage insurance program under this title is designed to serve.

(b) ADVISORY BOARD.—There is created a Federal Housing Administration Advisory Board (“Board”) that shall review operation of the Federal Housing Administration, including the activities of

the Mortgagee Review Board, and shall provide advice to the Federal Housing Commissioner with respect to the formulation of general policies of the Federal Housing Administration and such other matters as the Federal Housing Commissioner may deem appropriate. The Advisory Board shall, in all other respects, be subject to the provisions of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.

(1) The Advisory Board shall be composed of 15 members to be appointed from among individuals who have substantial expertise and broad experience in housing and mortgage lending of whom—

(A) 9 shall be appointed by the Secretary;

(B) 3 shall be appointed by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Urban Affairs of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) 3 shall be appointed by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development of the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives⁸.

(2) Membership on the Advisory Board shall include—

(A) not less than 4 persons with distinguished private sector careers in housing finance, lending, management, development or insurance;

(B) not less than 4 persons with outstanding reputations as licensed actuaries, experts in actuarial science, or economics related to housing;

(C) not less than 4 persons with backgrounds of leadership in representing the interests of housing consumers;

(D) not less than 1 person with significant experience and a distinguished reputation for work in the enforcement, advocacy, or development of fair housing or civil rights legislation; and

(E) not less than 1 person with a background of leadership in representing rural housing interests.

(3) Members of the Advisory Board shall be selected to ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, geographical representation or⁹ every region of the country.

(4) Not more than 8 members of the Advisory Board may be from any one political party.

(5) Membership of the Advisory Board shall not include any person who, during the previous 24-month period, was required to register with the Secretary under section 112(c) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989¹⁰ or employed a person for purposes that required such person to register.

⁸Section 109 of the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Amendments of 1988, Pub. L. 100-707, approved Nov. 23, 1988, amended this sentence to refer to such sections of the "Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act." Probably intended to refer to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, renamed by section 102(a) of Pub. L. 100-707.

⁹Section 1(a) of Public Law 104-14, 109 Stat. 186, provides, in part, that "any reference in any provision of law enacted before January 4, 1995, to... the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives". At the beginning

(6) Of the members of the Advisory Board first appointed, 5 shall have terms of 1 year, and 5 shall have terms of 2 years. Their successors and all other appointees shall have terms of 3 years.

(7) The Advisory Board is empowered to confer with, request information of, and make recommendations to the Federal Housing Commissioner. The Commissioner shall promptly provided the Advisory Board with such information as the Board determines to be necessary to carry out its review of the activities and policies of the Federal Housing Administration.

(8)¹¹ The Board shall, not later than December 31 of each year, submit to the Secretary and the Congress a report of its assessment of the activities of the Federal Housing Administration, including the soundness of underwriting procedures, the adequacy of information systems, the appropriateness of staffing patterns, the effectiveness of the Mortgagee Review Board, and other matters related to the Federal Housing Administration's ability to serve the nation's homebuyers and renters. Such report shall contain the Board's recommendations for improvement and include any minority views.

(9) The Board shall meet in Washington, D.C., not less than twice annually, or more frequently if requested by the Federal Housing Commissioner or a majority of the members. The Board shall elect a chair, vice-chair and secretary and adopt methods of procedure. The Board may establish committees and subcommittees as needed.

(10) Subject to the provisions of section 1006 of title 5, United States Code, all members of the Board may be compensated and shall be entitled to reimbursement from the Department for traveling expenses incurred in attendance at meetings of the Board.

(11) The Board shall terminate on January 1, 1995.

(c) MORTGAGEE REVIEW BOARD.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Federal Housing Administration the Mortgagee Review Board ("Board"). The Board is empowered to initiate the issuance of a letter of reprimand, the probation, suspension or withdrawal of any mortgagee found to be engaging in activities in violation of Federal Housing Administration requirements or the non-discrimination requirements of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Housing Act, or Executive Order 11063.

(2) COMPOSITION.—The Board shall consist of—

(A) the Assistant Secretary of Housing/Federal Housing Commissioner;

(B) the General Counsel of the Department;

compilation. Such section was added by section 112 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act, Pub. L. 101-235.

¹¹Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-66, which is set forth *post* in part XII of this compilation, provides that certain provisions of law requiring submittal to Congress of an annual, semiannual, or other regular periodic report shall cease to be effective on May 15, 2000. This paragraph is covered by such provision. However, section 1102 of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, Public Law 106-569, set forth *post* in part XII of this compilation, provides that such section 3003(a)(1) shall not apply to the report required to be submitted under this paragraph.

(C) the President of the Government National Mortgage Association;

(D) the Assistant Secretary for Administration;

(E) the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing Enforcement (in cases involving violations of nondiscrimination requirements); and

(F) the Chief Financial Officer of the Department;¹⁴ or their designees.¹³

(3) ACTIONS AUTHORIZED.—When any report, audit, investigation, or other information before the Board discloses that a basis for an administrative action against a mortgagee exists, the Board shall take one of the following administrative actions:

(A) LETTER OF REPRIMAND.—The Board may issue a letter of reprimand only once to a mortgagee without taking action under subparagraphs (B), (C), or (D) of this section. A letter of reprimand shall explain the violation and describe actions the mortgagee should take to correct the violation.

(B) PROBATION.—The Board may place a mortgagee on probation for a specified period of time not to exceed 6 months for the purpose of evaluating the mortgagee's compliance with Federal Housing Administration requirements, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Housing Act, Executive Order 11063, or orders of the Board. During the probation period, the Board may impose reasonable additional requirements on a mortgagee including supervision of the mortgagee's activities by the Federal Housing Administration, periodic reporting to the Federal Housing Commissioner, or submission to Federal Housing Administration audits of internal financial statements, audits by an independent certified public accountant or other audits.

(C) SUSPENSION.—The Board may issue an order temporarily suspending a mortgagee's approval for doing business with the Federal Housing Administration if (i) there exists adequate evidence of a violation or violations and (ii) continuation of the mortgagee's approval, pending or at the completion of any audit, investigation, or other review, or such administrative or other legal proceedings as may ensue, would not be in the public interest or in the best interests of the Department. Notwithstanding paragraph (4)(A), a suspension shall be effective upon issuance by the Board if the Board determines that there exists adequate evidence that immediate action is required to protect the financial interests of the Department or the public. A sus-

¹²So in law. Section 203(a)(1)(B) of Public Law 111-22 amends subparagraph (F) by striking “; and” and inserting “or their designees.”. The language proposed to be struck in subparagraph (F) does not appear and therefore that amendment could not be executed.

¹³So in law. Section 209(c)(2) of H.R. 5482 (106th Congress, as introduced in the House of Representatives; 114 Stat. 1441A-25), enacted by section 1(a)(1) of Public Law 106-377 (114 Stat. 1441) amends subparagraph (F) by striking “or their designees.” and inserting “and”. Paragraph (3) of section 209(c) adds a new subparagraph (G) at the end. The language proposed to be struck in subparagraph (F) does not appear and therefore that amendment could not be executed.

pension shall last for not less than 6 months, and for not longer than 1 year. The Board may extend the suspension for an additional 6 months if it determines the extension is in the public interest. If the Board and the mortgagee agree, these time limits may be extended. During the period of suspension, the Federal Housing Administration shall not commit to insure any mortgage originated by the suspended mortgagee.

(D) WITHDRAWAL.—The Board may issue an order withdrawing a mortgagee if the Board has made a determination of a serious violation or repeated violations by the mortgagee. The Board shall determine the terms of such withdrawal, but the term shall be not less than 1 year. Where the Board has determined that the violation is egregious or willful, the withdrawal shall be permanent.

(E) SETTLEMENTS.—The Board may at any time enter into a settlement agreement with a mortgagee to resolve any outstanding grounds for an action. Agreements may include provisions such as—

- (i) cessation of any violation;
- (ii) correction or mitigation of the effects of any violation;
- (iii) repayment of any sums of money wrongfully or incorrectly paid to the mortgagee by a mortgagor, by a seller or by the Federal Housing Administration;
- (iv) actions to collect sums of money wrongfully or incorrectly paid by the mortgagee to a third party;
- (v) indemnification of the Federal Housing Administration for mortgage insurance claims on mortgages originated in violation of Federal Housing Administration requirements;
- (vi) modification of the length of the penalty imposed; or
- (vii) implementation of other corrective measures acceptable to the Secretary.

Material failure to comply with the provisions of a settlement agreement shall be sufficient cause for suspension or withdrawal.

(4) NOTICE AND HEARING.—

(A) The Board shall issue a written notice to the mortgagee at least 30 days prior to taking any action against the mortgagee under subparagraph (B), (C), or (D) of paragraph (3). The notice shall state the specific violations which have been alleged, and shall direct the mortgagee to reply in writing to the Board within 30 days. If the mortgagee fails to reply during such period, the Board may make a determination without considering any comments of the mortgagee.

(B) If the Board takes action against a mortgagee under subparagraph (B), (C), or (D) of paragraph (3), the Board shall promptly notify the mortgagee in writing of the nature, duration, and specific reasons for the action. If, within 30 days of receiving the notice, the mortgagee requests a hearing, the Board shall hold a hearing on the

record regarding the violations within 30 days of receiving the request. If a mortgagee fails to request a hearing within such 30-day period, the right of the mortgagee to a hearing shall be considered waived.

(C) In any case in which the notification of the Board does not result in a hearing (including any settlement by the Board and a mortgagee), any information regarding the nature of the violation and the resolution of the action shall be available to the public.

(5) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall establish and publish in the Federal Register a description of and the cause for administrative action against a mortgagee.

(6) CEASE-AND-DESIST ORDERS.—

(A) Whenever the Secretary, upon request of the Mortgagee Review Board, determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that a mortgagee is violating, has violated, or is about to violate, a law, rule or regulation or any condition imposed in writing by the Secretary or the Board, and that such violation could result in significant cost to the Federal Government or the public, the Secretary may issue a temporary order requiring the mortgagee to cease and desist from any such violation and to take affirmative action to prevent such violation or a continuation of such violation pending completion of proceedings of the Board with respect to such violation. Such order shall include a notice of charges in respect thereof and shall become effective upon service to the mortgagee. Such order shall remain effective and enforceable for a period not to exceed 30 days pending the completion of proceedings of the Board with respect to such violation, unless such order is set aside, limited, or suspended by a court in proceedings authorized by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph. The Board shall provide the mortgagee an opportunity for a hearing on the record, as soon as practicable but not later than 20 days after the temporary cease-and-desist order has been served.

(B) Within 10 days after the mortgagee has been served with a temporary cease-and-desist order, the mortgagee may apply to the United States district court for the judicial district in which the home office of the mortgagee is located, or the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, for an injunction setting aside, limiting or suspending the enforcement, operation, or effectiveness of such order pending the completion of the administrative proceedings pursuant to the notice of charges served upon the mortgagee, and such court shall have jurisdiction to issue such injunction.

(C) In the case of violation or threatened violation of, or failure to obey, a temporary cease-and-desist order issued pursuant to this paragraph, the Secretary may apply to the United States district court, or the United States court of any territory, within the jurisdiction of which the home office of the mortgagee is located, for an injunction to enforce such order, and, if the court shall de-

termine that there has been such violation or threatened violation or failure to obey, it shall be the duty of the court to issue such injunction.

(7) DEFINITION OF “MORTGAGEE”.—For purposes of this subsection, the term “mortgagee” means—

(A) a mortgagee approved under this Act;

(B) a lender or a loan correspondent approved under title I of this Act;

(C) a branch office or subsidiary of the mortgagee, lender, or loan correspondent; or

(D) a director, officer, employee, agent, or other person participating in the conduct of the affairs of the mortgagee, lender, or loan correspondent.

(8) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Board, in consultation with the Federal Housing Administration Advisory Board, shall annually recommend to the Secretary such amendments to statute or regulation as the Board determines to be appropriate to ensure the long term financial strength of the Federal Housing Administration fund and the adequate support for home mortgage credit.

(9) PROHIBITION AGAINST LIMITATIONS ON MORTGAGEE REVIEW BOARD’S POWER TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST MORTGAGEES.—No State or local law, and no Federal law (except a Federal law enacted expressly in limitation of this subsection after the effective date of this sentence), shall preclude or limit the exercise by the Board of its power to take any action authorized under paragraphs (3) and (6) of this subsection against any mortgagee.

(d) LIMITATIONS ON PARTICIPATION IN ORIGINATION AND MORTGAGEE APPROVAL.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Any person or entity that is not approved by the Secretary to serve as a mortgagee, as such term is defined in subsection (c)(7), shall not participate in the origination of an FHA-insured loan except as authorized by the Secretary.

(2) ELIGIBILITY FOR APPROVAL.—In order to be eligible for approval by the Secretary, an applicant mortgagee shall not be, and shall not have any officer, partner, director, principal, manager, supervisor, loan processor, loan underwriter, or loan originator of the applicant mortgagee who is—

(A) currently suspended, debarred, under a limited denial of participation (LDP), or otherwise restricted under part 25 of title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 180 as implemented by part 2424, or any successor regulations to such parts, or under similar provisions of any other Federal agency;

(B) under indictment for, or has been convicted of, an offense that reflects adversely upon the applicant’s integrity, competence or fitness to meet the responsibilities of an approved mortgagee;

(C) subject to unresolved findings contained in a Department of Housing and Urban Development or other governmental audit, investigation, or review;

(D) engaged in business practices that do not conform to generally accepted practices of prudent mortgagees or that demonstrate irresponsibility;

(E) convicted of, or who has pled guilty or nolo contendere¹⁴ to, a felony related to participation in the real estate or mortgage loan industry—

(i) during the 7-year period preceding the date of the application for licensing and registration; or

(ii) at any time preceding such date of application, if such felony involved an act of fraud, dishonesty, or a breach of trust, or money laundering;

(F) in violation of provisions of the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) or any applicable provision of State law; or

(G) in violation of any other requirement as established by the Secretary.

(3) RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall conduct a rulemaking to carry out this subsection. The Secretary shall implement this subsection not later than the expiration of the 60-day period beginning upon the date of the enactment of this subsection by notice, mortgagee letter, or interim final regulations, which shall take effect upon issuance.

(e) COORDINATION OF GNMA AND FHA WITHDRAWAL ACTION.—

(1) Whenever the Federal Housing Administration or Government National Mortgage Association initiates proceedings that could lead to withdrawing the mortgagee from participating in the program, the initiating agency shall—

(A) within 24 hours notify the other agency in writing of the action taken;

(B) provide to the other agency the factual basis for the action taken; and

(C) if a mortgagee is withdrawn, publish its decision in the Federal Register.

(2) Within 60 days of receipt of a notification of action that could lead to withdrawal under subsection (1), the Federal Housing Administration or the Government National Mortgage Association shall—

(A) conduct and complete its own investigation;

(B) provide written notification to the other agency of its decision, including the factual basis for its decision; and

(C) if a mortgagee is withdrawn, publish its decision in the Federal Register.

(f) Whenever the Secretary has taken any discretionary action to suspend or revoke the approval of any mortgagee to participate in any mortgage insurance program under this title, the Secretary shall provide prompt notice of the action and a statement of the reasons for the action to—

(1) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs;

(2) the chief executive officer of the Federal National Mortgage Association;

(3) the chief executive officer of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation;

(4) the Secretary of Agriculture;

(5) if the mortgagee is a national bank, a subsidiary or affiliate of such bank, a Federal savings association or a subsidiary or affiliate of a savings association, the Comptroller of the Currency;

(6) if the mortgagee is a State bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System or a subsidiary or affiliate of such a bank, or a bank holding company or a subsidiary or affiliate of such a company, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and

(7) if the mortgagee is a State bank or State savings association that is not a member of the Federal Reserve System or is a subsidiary or affiliate of such a bank, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

(g) APPRAISAL STANDARDS.—(1) The Secretary shall prescribe standards for the appraisal of all property to be insured by the Federal Housing Administration. Such appraisals shall be performed in accordance with uniform standards, by individuals who have demonstrated competence and whose professional conduct is subject to effective supervision. These standards shall require at a minimum—

(A) that the appraisals of properties to be insured by the Federal Housing Administration shall be performed in accordance with generally accepted appraisal standards, such as the appraisal standards promulgated by the Appraisal Foundation a not-for-profit corporation established on November 30, 1987 under the laws of Illinois; and

(B) that each appraisal be a written statement used in connection with a real estate transaction that is independently and impartially prepared by a licensed or certified appraiser setting forth an opinion of defined value of an adequately described property as of a specific date, supported by presentation and analysis of relevant market information.

(2) The Appraisal Subcommittee of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council shall include the Secretary or his designee.

(3) DIRECT ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM.—

(A) Any mortgagee that is authorized by the Secretary to process mortgages as a direct endorsement mortgagee (pursuant to the single-family home mortgage direct endorsement program established by the Secretary) may contract with an appraiser chosen at the discretion of the mortgagee for the performance of appraisals in connection with such mortgages. Such appraisers may include appraisal companies organized as corporations, partnerships, or sole proprietorships.

(B) Any appraisal conducted pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be conducted by an individual who complies with the qualifications or standards for appraisers established by the Secretary pursuant to this subsection.

(C) In conducting an appraisal, such individual may utilize the assistance of others, who shall be under the direct supervision of the individual responsible for the appraisal. The individual responsible for the appraisal shall personally approve and sign any appraisal report.

(4) FEE PANEL APPRAISERS.—

(A) Any individual who is an employee of an appraisal company (including any company organized as a corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship) and who meets the qualifications or standards for appraisers and inclusion on appraiser fee panels established by the Secretary, shall be eligible for assignment to conduct appraisals for mortgages under this title in the same manner and on the same basis as other approved appraisers.

(B) With respect to any employee of an appraisal company described in subparagraph (A) who is offered an appraisal assignment in connection with a mortgage under this title, the person utilizing the appraiser may contract directly with the appraisal company employing the appraiser for the furnishing of the appraisal services.

(5) ADDITIONAL APPRAISER STANDARDS.—Beginning on the date of enactment of the Federal Housing Finance Regulatory Reform Act of 2008, any appraiser chosen or approved to conduct appraisals for mortgages under this title shall—

(A) be certified—

(i) by the State in which the property to be appraised is located; or

(ii) by a nationally recognized professional appraisal organization; and

(B) have demonstrated verifiable education in the appraisal requirements established by the Federal Housing Administration under this subsection.

(h) USE OF NAME.—The Secretary shall, by regulation, require each mortgagee approved by the Secretary for participation in the FHA mortgage insurance programs of the Secretary—

(1) to use the business name of the mortgagee that is registered with the Secretary in connection with such approval in all advertisements and promotional materials, as such terms are defined by the Secretary, relating to the business of such mortgagee in such mortgage insurance programs; and

(2) to maintain copies of all such advertisements and promotional materials, in such form and for such period as the Secretary requires.

INSURANCE OF MORTGAGES

SEC. 203. [12 U.S.C. 1709] (a) The Secretary is authorized, upon application by the mortgagee, to insure as hereinafter provided any mortgage offered to him which is eligible for insurance as hereinafter provided, and, upon such terms as the Secretary may prescribe, to make commitments for the insuring of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon.

(b) To be eligible for insurance under this section a mortgage shall comply with the following:

(1) Have been made to, and be held by, a mortgagee approved by the Secretary as responsible and able to service the mortgage properly.

(2) Involve a principal obligation (including such initial service charges, appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in an amount—

(A) not to exceed the lesser of—

(i) in the case of a 1-family residence, 115 percent of the median 1-family house price in the area, as determined by the Secretary; and in the case of a 2-, 3-, or 4-family residence, the percentage of such median price that bears the same ratio to such median price as the dollar amount limitation determined under the sixth sentence of section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)) for a 2-, 3-, or 4-family residence, respectively, bears to the dollar amount limitation determined under such section for a 1-family residence; or

(ii) 150 percent of the dollar amount limitation determined under the sixth sentence of such section 305(a)(2) for a residence of applicable size;

except that the dollar amount limitation in effect under this subparagraph for any size residence for any area may not be less than the greater of: (I) the dollar amount limitation in effect under this section for the area on October 21, 1998; or (II) 65 percent of the dollar amount limitation determined under the sixth sentence of such section 305(a)(2) for a residence of the applicable size; and

(B) not to exceed 100 percent of the appraised value of the property.

For¹⁵ purposes of the preceding sentence, the term “area” means a metropolitan statistical area as established by the Office of Management and Budget; and the median 1-family house price for an area shall be equal to the median 1-family house price of the county within the area that has the highest such median price.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, the amount which may be insured under this section may be increased by up to 20 percent if such increase is necessary to account for the increased cost of the residence due to the installation of a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) therein.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, the Secretary may not insure, or enter into a commitment to insure, a mortgage under this section that is executed by a first-time homebuyer and that involves a principal obligation (including such initial service charges, appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in excess of 97 percent of the appraised value of the property unless the mortgagor has completed a program of counseling with respect to the responsibilities and financial management involved in homeownership that is approved by the Secretary; except that

¹⁵ Section 2112(a)(2) of Public Law 110-289 (122 Stat. 2831) amended this paragraph by striking the second sentence and all that followed through “section 3103A(d) of title 38, United States Code”. The reference to section 3103A(d) does not appear because section 402(b) of Public Law 103-40 (105 Stat. 239) redesignated such section as section 5303A. Section 402(d)(2) of Public Law 103-40 (105 Stat. 239) deemed any reference in a provision of law other than title 38, United States Code, to refer to the section as redesignated. This paragraph is shown as amended to reflect the probable intent of the Congress.

the Secretary may, in the discretion of the Secretary, waive the applicability of this requirement.

(3) Have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary, but not to exceed, in any event, thirty-five years (or thirty years if such mortgage is not approved for insurance prior to construction) from the date of the beginning of amortization of the mortgage.

(4) Contain complete amortization provisions satisfactory to the Secretary requiring periodic payments by the mortgagor not in excess of his reasonable ability to pay as determined by the Secretary.

(5) Bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee.

(6) Provide, in a manner satisfactory to the Secretary, for the application of the mortgagor's periodic payments (exclusive of the amount allocated to interest and to the premium charge which is required for mortgage insurance as hereinafter provided) to amortization of the principal of the mortgage.

(7) Contain such terms and provisions with respect to insurance, repairs, alterations, payment of taxes, default reserves, delinquency charges, foreclosure proceedings, anticipation of maturity, additional and secondary liens, and other matters as the Secretary may in his discretion prescribe.

[(8) [Repealed.]

(9) CASH INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A mortgage insured under this section shall be executed by a mortgagor who shall have paid, in cash or its equivalent, on account of the property an amount equal to not less than 3.5 percent of the appraised value of the property or such larger amount as the Secretary may determine.

(B) FAMILY MEMBERS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the Secretary shall consider as cash or its equivalent any amounts borrowed from a family member (as such term is defined in section 201), subject only to the requirements that, in any case in which the repayment of such borrowed amounts is secured by a lien against the property, that—

(i) such lien shall be subordinate to the mortgage; and

(ii) the sum of the principal obligation of the mortgage and the obligation secured by such lien may not exceed 100 percent of the appraised value of the property plus any initial service charges, appraisal, inspection, and other fees in connection with the mortgage.

(C) PROHIBITED SOURCES.—In no case shall the funds required by subparagraph (A) consist, in whole or in part, of funds provided by any of the following parties before, during, or after closing of the property sale:

(i) The seller or any other person or entity that financially benefits from the transaction.

(ii) Any third party or entity that is reimbursed, directly or indirectly, by any of the parties described in clause (i).

This subparagraph shall apply only to mortgages for which the mortgagee has issued credit approval for the borrower on or after October 1, 2008.

(c)(1)¹⁶ The Secretary is authorized to fix premium charge for the insurance of mortgages under the separate sections of this title but in the case of any mortgage such charge shall be not less than an amount equivalent to one-fourth of 1 per centum per annum nor more than an amount equivalent to 1 per centum per annum of the amount of the principal obligation of the mortgage outstanding at any time, without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments: *Provided*, That premium charges fixed for insurance (1) under section 245, 247, 251, 252, or 253, or any other financing mechanism providing alternative methods for repayment of a mortgage that is determined by the Secretary to involve additional risk, or (2) under subsection (n) are not required to be the same as the premium charges for mortgages insured under the other provisions of this section, but in no case shall premium charges under subsection (n) exceed 1 per centum per annum: *Provided*, That any reduced premium charge so fixed and computed may, in the discretion of the Secretary, also be made applicable in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe to each insured mortgage outstanding under the section or sections involved at the time the reduced premium charge is fixed. Such premium charges shall be payable by the mortgagee, either in cash, or in debentures issued by the Secretary under this title at par plus accrued interest, in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary: *Provided*, That debentures presented in payment of premium charges shall represent obligations of the particular insurance fund or account to which such premium charges are to be credited: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may require the payment of one or more such premium charges at the time the mortgage is insured, at such discount rate as he may prescribe not in excess of the interest rate specified in the mortgage. If the Secretary finds upon the presentation of a mortgage for insurance and the tender of the initial premium charge or charges so required that the mortgage complies with the provisions of this section, such mortgage may be accepted for insurance by endorsement or otherwise as the Secretary may prescribe; but no mortgage shall be accepted for insurance under this section unless the Secretary finds that the project with respect to which the mortgage is executed is economically sound. In the event that the principal obligation of any mortgage accepted for insurance under this title is paid in full prior to the maturity date, the Secretary is further authorized in his discretion to require the payment by the mortgagee of an adjusted premium charge in such amount as the Secretary determines to be equitable, but not in excess of the aggregate amount of the premium charges that the mortgagee would otherwise have been required to pay if the mortgage had continued to be insured until such maturity date; and in the event that the principal obligation is paid in full as herein set forth, the Secretary is authorized to refund to the mortgagee for

¹⁶ For provisions regarding premiums on mortgages executed during fiscal years 1991 through 1994, see section 2103(b) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, Pub. L. 101-508 (as amended by section 507(c) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, Pub. L. 102-550).

the account of the mortgagor all, or such portion as he shall determine to be equitable, of the current unearned premium charges theretofore paid: *Provided*, That with respect to mortgages (1) for which the Secretary requires, at the time the mortgage is insured, the payment of a single premium charge to cover the total premium obligation for the insurance of the mortgage, and (2) on which the principal obligation is paid before the number of years on which the premium with respect to a particular mortgage was based, or the property is sold subject to the mortgage or is sold and the mortgage is assumed prior to such time, the Secretary shall provide for refunds, where appropriate, of a portion of the premium paid and shall provide for appropriate allocation of the premium cost among the mortgagors over the term of the mortgage, in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary which take into account sound financial and actuarial considerations.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, each mortgage secured by a 1- to 4-family dwelling that is an obligation of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund shall be subject to the following requirements:

(A) The Secretary shall establish and collect, at the time of insurance, a single premium payment in an amount not exceeding 3 percent of the amount of the original insured principal obligation of the mortgage. In the case of a mortgage for which the mortgagor is a first-time homebuyer who completes a program of counseling with respect to the responsibilities and financial management involved in homeownership that is approved by the Secretary, the premium payment under this subparagraph shall not exceed 2.75 percent of the amount of the original insured principal obligation of the mortgage. Upon payment in full of the principal obligation of a mortgage prior to the maturity date of the mortgage, the Secretary shall refund all of the unearned premium charges paid on the mortgage pursuant to this subparagraph, provided that the mortgagor refinances the unpaid principal obligation under title II of this Act¹⁷.

(B) In addition to the premium under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may establish and collect annual premium payments in an amount not exceeding 1.5 percent of the remaining insured principal balance (excluding the portion of the remaining balance attributable to the premium collected under subparagraph (A) and without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments) for the following periods:

(i) For any mortgage involving an original principal obligation (excluding any premium collected under subparagraph (A)) that is less than 90 percent of the appraised value of the property (as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance), for the first 11 years of the mortgage term.

¹⁷The proviso at the end of this sentence regarding refinancing was added by section 223 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005, enacted as Division I of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, Public Law 108-447, 118 Stat. 3321, approved December 8, 2004. Such section also provides "[t]his provision shall apply to loans that become insured on or after the date of the enactment of this Act'.

(ii) For any mortgage involving an original principal obligation (excluding any premium collected under subparagraph (A)) that is greater than or equal to 90 percent of such value, for the first 30 years of the mortgage term; except that notwithstanding the matter preceding clause (i), for any mortgage involving an original principal obligation (excluding any premium collected under subparagraph (A)) that is greater than 95 percent of such value, the annual premium collected during the 30-year period under this clause may be in an amount not exceeding 1.55 percent of the remaining insured principal balance (excluding the portion of the remaining balance attributable to the premium collected under subparagraph (A) and without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments).

(C)(i)¹⁸ In addition to the premiums under subparagraphs (A) and (B), the Secretary shall establish and collect annual premium payments for any mortgage for which the Secretary collects an annual premium payment under subparagraph (B), in an amount described in clause (ii).

(ii)(I) Subject to subclause (II), with respect to a mortgage, the amount described in this clause is 10 basis points of the remaining insured principal balance (excluding the portion of the remaining balance attributable to the premium collected under subparagraph (A) and without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments).

(II) During the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary shall increase the number of basis points of the annual premium payment collected under this subparagraph incrementally, as determined appropriate by the Secretary, until the number of basis points of the annual premium payment collected under this subparagraph is equal to the number described in subclause (I).

(d)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, notwithstanding provision¹⁹ of this title governing maximum mortgage amounts for insuring a mortgage secured by a one- to four-family dwelling, the maximum amount of the mortgage determined under any such provision may be increased by the amount of the mortgage insurance premium paid at the time the mortgage is insured.

(2) The maximum amount of a mortgage determined under subsection (b)(2)(B) of this section may not be increased as provided in paragraph (1).

(e) Any contract of insurance heretofore or hereafter executed by the Secretary under this title shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of the loan or mortgage for insurance, and the validity of any contract of insurance so executed shall be incontestable in the hands of an approved financial institution or approved mortgagee from the date of the execution of such contract, except for fraud or misrepresentation on the part of such approved financial institution or approved mortgagee.

(f) DISCLOSURE OF OTHER MORTGAGE PRODUCTS.—

¹⁸ Effective October 1, 2021, section 402(b) of Public Law 112–78 repeals subparagraph (C).

¹⁹ So in law. Probably should read “notwithstanding any provision”. See amendment made by section 2112(b)(1) of Public Law 110–289.

(1) IN GENERAL.—In conjunction with any loan insured under this section, an original lender shall provide to each prospective borrower a disclosure notice that provides a 1-page analysis of mortgage products offered by that lender and for which the borrower would qualify.

(2) NOTICE.—The notice required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a generic analysis comparing the note rate (and associated interest payments), insurance premiums, and other costs and fees that would be due over the life of the loan for a loan insured by the Secretary under subsection (b) with the note rates, insurance premiums (if applicable), and other costs and fees that would be expected to be due if the mortgagor obtained instead other mortgage products offered by the lender and for which the borrower would qualify with a similar loan-to-value ratio in connection with a conventional mortgage (as that term is used in section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)) or section 302(b)(2) of the Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act (12 U.S.C. 1717(b)(2)), as applicable), assuming prevailing interest rates; and

(B) a statement regarding when the requirement of the mortgagor to pay the mortgage insurance premiums for a mortgage insured under this section would terminate, or a statement that the requirement shall terminate only if the mortgage is refinanced, paid off, or otherwise terminated.

(g)(1) The Secretary may insure a mortgage under this title that is secured by a 1- to 4-family dwelling, or approve a substitute mortgagor with respect to any such mortgage, only if the mortgagor is to occupy the dwelling as his or her principal residence or as a secondary residence, as determined by the Secretary. In making this determination with respect to the occupancy of secondary residences, the Secretary may not insure mortgages with respect to such residences unless the Secretary determines that it is necessary to avoid undue hardship to the mortgagor. In no event may a secondary residence under this subsection include a vacation home, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) The occupancy requirement established in paragraph (1) shall not apply to any mortgagor (or co-mortgagor, as appropriate) that is—

(A) a public entity, as provided in section 214 or 247, or any other State or local government or an agency thereof;

(B) a private nonprofit or public entity, as provided in section 221(h) or 235(j), or other private nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and intends to sell or lease the mortgage property to low or moderate-income persons, as determined by the Secretary;

(C) an Indian tribe, as provided in section 248;

(D) a serviceperson who is unable to meet such requirement because of his or her duty assignment, as provided in section 216 or subsection (b)(4) or (f) of section 222;

(E) a mortgagor or co-mortgagor under subsection (k); or
(F) a mortgagor that, pursuant to section 223(a)(7), is refinancing an existing mortgage insured under this Act for not more than the outstanding balance of the existing mortgage, if the amount of the monthly payment due under the refinancing mortgage is less than the amount due under the existing mortgage for the month in which the refinancing mortgage is executed.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, the term “substitute mortgagor” means a person who, upon the release by a mortgagee of a previous mortgagor from personal liability on the mortgage note, assumes such liability and agrees to pay the mortgage debt.

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary is authorized to insure any mortgage which involves a principal obligation not in excess of the applicable maximum dollar limit under subsection (b) and not in excess of 100 per centum of the appraised value of a property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a single-family residence, where the mortgagor establishes (to the satisfaction of the Secretary) that his home which he occupied as an owner or as a tenant was destroyed or damaged to such an extent that reconstruction is required as a result of a flood, fire, hurricane, earthquake, storm, or other catastrophe, which the President, pursuant to²⁰ Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, has determined to be a major disaster. In any case in which the single family residence to be insured under this subsection is within a jurisdiction in which the President has declared a major disaster to have occurred, the Secretary is authorized, for a temporary period not to exceed 18 months from the date of such Presidential declaration, to enter into agreements to insure a mortgage which involves a principal obligation of up to 100 percent of the dollar limitation determined under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act for single family residence, and not in excess of 100 percent of the appraised value.²¹

[(i) [Repealed.]

(j) Loans secured by mortgages insured under this section shall not be taken into account in determining the amount of real estate loans which a national bank may make in relation to its capital and surplus or its time and savings deposits.

(k)(1) The Secretary may, in order to assist in the rehabilitation of one- to four-family structures used primarily for residential purposes, insure and make commitments to insure rehabilitation loans (including advances made during rehabilitation) made by financial institutions. Such commitments to insure and such insurance shall be made upon such terms and conditions which the Secretary may prescribe and which are consistent with the provisions

²⁰ So in law.

²¹ This sentence was added by the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-211, 108 Stat. 12, approved February 12, 1994. The undesignated paragraph (12 U.S.C. 1709 note) following the paragraph in which this amendment was made provides as follows:

“Eligibility for loans made under the authority granted by the preceding paragraph shall be limited to persons whose principal residence was damaged or destroyed as a result of the January 1994 earthquake in Southern California: *Provided*, That the provisions under this heading shall be effective only for the 18-month period following the date of enactment of this Act.”

of subsections (b), (c), (e), (i) and (j) of this section, except as modified by the provisions of this subsection.

(2) For the purpose of this subsection—

(A) the term “rehabilitation loan” means a loan, advance of credit, or purchase of an obligation representing a loan or advance of credit, made for the purpose of financing—

(i) the rehabilitation of an existing one- to four-unit structure which will be used primarily for residential purposes;

(ii) the rehabilitation of such a structure and the refinancing of the outstanding indebtedness on such structure and the real property on which the structure is located; or

(iii) the rehabilitation of such a structure and the purchase of the structure and the real property on which it is located; and

(B) the term “rehabilitation” means the improvement (including improvements designed to meet cost-effective energy conservation standards prescribed by the Secretary) or repair of a structure, or facilities in connection with a structure, and may include the provision of such sanitary or other facilities as are required by applicable codes, a community development plan, or a statewide property insurance plan to be provided by the owner or tenant of the project. The term “rehabilitation” may also include measures to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards, as such terms are defined in section 1004 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992.

(3) To be eligible for insurance under this subsection, a rehabilitation loan shall—

(A) involve a principal obligation (including such initial service charges, appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in an amount which does not exceed, when added to any outstanding indebtedness of the borrower which is secured by the structure and the property on which it is located, the amount specified in subsection (b)(2); except that, in determining the amount of the principal obligation for purposes of this subsection, the Secretary shall establish as the appraised value of the property an amount not to exceed the sum of the estimated cost of rehabilitation and the Secretary’s estimate of the value of the property before rehabilitation;

(B) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the borrower and the financial institution;

(C) be an acceptable risk, as determined by the Secretary; and

(D) comply with such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(4) Any rehabilitation loan insured under this subsection may be refinanced and extended in accordance with such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, but in no event for an additional amount or term which exceeds the maximum provided for in this subsection.

(5) All funds received and all disbursements made pursuant to the authority established by this subsection shall be credited or charged as appropriate, to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, and insurance benefits shall be paid in cash out of such Fund or

in debentures executed in the name of such Fund. Insurance benefits paid with respect to loans secured by a first mortgage and insured under this subsection shall be paid in accordance with section 204. Insurance benefits paid with respect to loans secured by a mortgage other than a first mortgage and insured under this subsection shall be paid in accordance with paragraphs (6) and (7) of section 220(h), except that reference to “this subsection” in such paragraphs shall be construed as referring to this subsection.

(6)²² The Secretary is authorized, for a temporary period not to exceed 18 months from the date on which the President has declared a major disaster to have occurred, to enter into agreements to insure a rehabilitation loan under this subsection which involves a principal obligation of up to 100 percent of the dollar limitation determined under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act for a residence of the applicable size, if such loan is secured by a structure and property that are within a jurisdiction in which the President has declared such disaster, pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and if such loan otherwise conforms to the loan-to-value ratio and other requirements of this subsection.

[(1) [Repealed.]]

[(m) [Repealed.]]

(n)(1) The Secretary is authorized to insure under this section any mortgage meeting the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, except as modified by this subsection. To be eligible, the mortgage shall involve a dwelling unit in a cooperative housing project which is covered by a blanket mortgage insured under this Act or the construction of which was completed more than a year prior to the application for the mortgage insurance. The mortgage amount as determined under the other provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall be reduced by an amount equal to the portion of the unpaid balance of the blanket mortgage covering the project which is attributable (as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance) to such unit.

(2) For the purpose of this subsection—

(A) The terms “home mortgage” and “mortgage” include a first or subordinate mortgage or lien given (in accordance with the laws of the State where the property is located and accompanied by such security and other undertakings as may be required under regulations of the Secretary) to secure a loan made to finance the purchase of stock or membership in a cooperative ownership housing corporation the permanent occupancy of the dwelling units of which is restricted to members of such corporation, where the purchase of such stock or membership will entitle the purchaser to the permanent occupancy of one of such units.

²²This paragraph was added by the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103–211, 108 Stat. 12, approved February 12, 1994, and the indentation as shown is so in law. The undesignated paragraph (12 U.S.C. 1709 note) following the paragraph in which this amendment was made provides as follows:

“Eligibility for loans made under the authority granted by the preceding paragraph shall be limited to persons whose principal residence was damaged or destroyed as a result of the January 1994 earthquake in Southern California: *Provided*, That the provisions under this heading shall be effective only for the 18-month period following the date of enactment of this Act.”

(B) The terms “appraised value of the property”, “value of the property”, and “value” include the appraised value of a dwelling unit in a cooperative housing project of the type described in subparagraph (A) where the purchase of the stock or membership involved will entitle the purchaser to the permanent occupancy of that unit; and the term “property” includes a dwelling unit in such a cooperative project.

(C) The terms “mortgagor” includes a person or persons giving a first or subordinate mortgage or lien (of the type described in subparagraph (A)) to secure a loan to finance the purchase of stock or membership in a cooperative housing corporation.

[(o) [Repealed.]]

[(p) [Repealed.]]

[(q) [Repealed.]]

(r) The Secretary shall take appropriate actions to reduce losses under the single-family mortgage insurance programs carried out under this title. Such actions shall include—

(1) an annual review by the Secretary of the rate of early serious defaults and claims, in accordance with section 533;

(2) requiring that at least one person acquiring ownership of a one- to four-family residential property encumbered by a mortgage insured under this title be determined to be credit-worthy under standards prescribed by the Secretary, whether or not such person assumes personal liability under the mortgage (except that acquisitions by devise or descent shall not be subject to this requirement);

(3) in any case where personal liability under a mortgage is assumed, requiring that the original mortgagor be advised of the procedures by which he or she may be released from liability; and

(4) providing counseling, either directly or through third parties, to delinquent mortgagors whose mortgages are insured under this section 203 (12 U.S.C. 1709), using the Fund to pay for such counseling.

In any case where the homeowner does not request a release from liability, the purchaser and the homeowner shall have joint and several liability for any default for a period of 5 years following the date of the assumption. After the close of such 5-year period, only the purchaser shall be liable for any default on the mortgage unless the mortgage is in default at the time of the expiration of the 5-year period.

[(s) [Transferred.]]

(t)(1) Each mortgagee (or servicer) with respect to a mortgage under this section shall provide each mortgagor of such mortgagee (or servicer) written notice, not less than annually, containing a statement of the amount outstanding for prepayment of the principal amount of the mortgage and describing any requirements the mortgagor must fulfill to prevent the accrual of any interest on such principal amount after the date of any prepayment. This paragraph shall apply to any insured mortgage outstanding on or after the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of effectiveness of final regulations implementing this paragraph.

(2) Each mortgagee (or servicer) with respect to a mortgage under this section shall, at or before closing with respect to any such mortgage, provide the mortgagor with written notice (in such form as the Secretary shall prescribe, by regulation, before the expiration of the 90-day period beginning upon the date of the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act²³) describing any requirements the mortgagor must fulfill upon prepayment of the principal amount of the mortgage to prevent the accrual of any interest on the principal amount after the date of such prepayment. This paragraph shall apply to any mortgage executed after the expiration of the period under paragraph (1).

(u)(1) No mortgagee may make or hold mortgages insured under this section if the customary lending practices of the mortgagee, as determined by the Secretary pursuant to section 539, provide for a variation in mortgage charge rates that exceeds 2 percent for insured mortgages made by the mortgagee on dwellings located within an area. The Secretary shall ensure that any permissible variations in the mortgage charge rates of any mortgagee are based only on actual variations in fees or costs to the mortgagee to make the loan.

(2) For purposes of this subsection—

(A) the term “area” means a metropolitan statistical area as established by the Office of Management and Budget;

(B) the term “mortgage charges” includes the interest rate, discount points, loan origination fee, and any other amount charged to a mortgagor with respect to an insured mortgage; and

(C) the term “mortgage charge rate” means the amount of mortgage charges for an insured mortgage expressed as a percentage of the initial principal amount of the mortgage.

(v) The insurance of a mortgage under this section in connection with the assistance provided under section 8(y) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 shall be the obligation of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund.

(w)²⁴ ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit to the Congress an annual report on the single family mortgage insurance program under this section. Each report shall set forth—

(1) an analysis of the income groups served by the single family insurance program, including—

(A) the percentage of borrowers whose incomes do not exceed 100 percent of the median income for the area;

(B) the percentage of borrowers whose incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median income for the area; and

²³ The date of enactment was November 28, 1990.

²⁴ Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-66, which is set forth *post* in part XII of this compilation, provides that certain provisions of law requiring submittal to Congress of an annual, semiannual, or other regular periodic report shall cease to be effective on May 15, 2000. This subsection is covered by such provision. However, section 1102 of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, Public Law 106-569, set forth *post* in part XII of this compilation, provides that such section 3003(a)(1) shall not apply to the report required to be submitted under “section 203(v) of the National Housing Act, as added by section 504 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992”. This subsection was added by such section 504, was originally designated as subsection (v) and was subsequently redesignated.

(C) the percentage of borrowers whose incomes do not exceed 60 percent of the median income for the area;

(2) an analysis of the percentage of minority borrowers annually assisted by the program; the percentage of central city borrowers assisted and the percentage of rural borrowers assisted by the program;

(3) the extent to which the Secretary in carrying out the program has employed methods to ensure that needs of low and moderate income families, underserved areas, and historically disadvantaged groups are served by the program; and

(4) the current impediments to having the program serve low and moderate income borrowers; borrowers from central city areas; borrowers from rural areas; and minority borrowers.

(x) MANAGEMENT DEFICIENCIES REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection²⁵, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the plan of the Secretary to address each material weakness, reportable condition, and noncompliance with an applicable law or regulation (as defined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget) identified in the most recent audited financial statement of the Federal Housing Administration submitted under section 3515 of title 31, United States Code.

(2) CONTENTS OF ANNUAL REPORT.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an estimate of the resources, including staff, information systems, and contract assistance, required to address each material weakness, reportable condition, and noncompliance with an applicable law or regulation described in paragraph (1), and the costs associated with those resources;

(B) an estimated timetable for addressing each material weakness, reportable condition, and noncompliance with an applicable law or regulation described in paragraph (1); and

(C) the progress of the Secretary in implementing the plan of the Secretary included in the report submitted under paragraph (1) for the preceding year, except that this subparagraph does not apply to the initial report submitted under paragraph (1).

(y) REQUIREMENTS FOR MORTGAGES FOR CONDOMINIUMS.—

(1) PROJECT RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other law, regulation, or guideline of the Secretary, including chapter 2.4 of the Condominium Project Approval and Processing Guide of the FHA, the Secretary shall streamline the project certification requirements that are applicable to the insurance under this section for mortgages for condominium projects so that recertifications are substantially less burdensome than certifications. The Secretary shall consider lengthening the time between certifications for approved properties, and allowing updating of information rather than resubmission.

²⁵ The date of enactment was October 21, 1998.

(2) **COMMERCIAL SPACE REQUIREMENTS.**—Notwithstanding any other law, regulation, or guideline of the Secretary, including chapter 2.1.3 of the Condominium Project Approval and Processing Guide of the FHA, in providing for exceptions to the requirement for the insurance of a mortgage on a condominium property under this section regarding the percentage of the floor space of a condominium property that may be used for nonresidential or commercial purposes, the Secretary shall provide that—

(A) any request for such an exception and the determination of the disposition of such request may be made, at the option of the requester, under the direct endorsement lender review and approval process or under the HUD review and approval process through the applicable field office of the Department; and

(B) in determining whether to allow such an exception for a condominium property, factors relating to the economy for the locality in which such project is located or specific to project, including the total number of family units in the project, shall be considered.

Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall issue regulations to implement this paragraph, which shall include any standards, training requirements, and remedies and penalties that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(3) **TRANSFER FEES.**—Notwithstanding any other law, regulation, or guideline of the Secretary, including chapter 1.8.8 of the Condominium Project Approval and Processing Guide of the FHA and section 203.41 of the Secretary's regulations (24 CFR 203.41), existing standards of the Federal Housing Finance Agency relating to encumbrances under private transfer fee covenants shall apply to the insurance of mortgages by the Secretary under this section to the same extent and in the same manner that such standards apply to the purchasing, investing in, and otherwise dealing in mortgages by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation. If the provisions of part 1228 of the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency's regulations (12 CFR part 1228) are amended or otherwise changed after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall adopt any such amendments or changes for purposes of this paragraph, unless the Secretary causes to be published in the Federal Register a notice explaining why the Secretary will disregard such amendments or changes within 90 days after the effective date of such amendments or changes.

(4) **OWNER-OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENT.**—

(A) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PERCENTAGE REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall, by rule, notice, or mortgagee letter, issue guidance regarding the percentage of units that must be occupied by the owners as a principal residence or a secondary residence (as such terms are defined by the Sec-

retary), or must have been sold to owners who intend to meet such occupancy requirements, including justifications for the percentage requirements, in order for a condominium project to be acceptable to the Secretary for insurance under this section of a mortgage within such condominium property.

(B) FAILURE TO ACT.—If the Secretary fails to issue the guidance required under subparagraph (A) before the expiration of the 90-day period specified in such clause, the following provisions shall apply:

(i) 35 PERCENT REQUIREMENT.—In order for a condominium project to be acceptable to the Secretary for insurance under this section, at least 35 percent of all family units (including units not covered by FHA-insured mortgages) must be occupied by the owners as a principal residence or a secondary residence (as such terms are defined by the Secretary), or must have been sold to owners who intend to meet such occupancy requirement.

(ii) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary may increase the percentage applicable pursuant to clause (i) to a condominium project on a project-by-project or regional basis, and in determining such percentage for a project shall consider factors relating to the economy for the locality in which such project is located or specific to project, including the total number of family units in the project.

PAYMENT OF INSURANCE

SEC. 204. [12 U.S.C. 1710] (a)²⁶ IN GENERAL.—

(1) AUTHORIZED CLAIMS PROCEDURES.—The Secretary may, in accordance with this subsection and terms and conditions prescribed by the Secretary, pay insurance benefits to a mortgagee for any mortgage insured under section 203 through any of the following methods:

(A) ASSIGNMENT OF MORTGAGE.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits whenever a mortgage has been in a monetary default for not less than 3 full monthly installments or whenever the mortgagee is entitled to foreclosure for a nonmonetary default. Insurance benefits shall be paid pursuant to this subparagraph only upon the assignment, transfer, and delivery to the Secretary of—

(i) all rights and interests arising under the mortgage;

²⁶Section 601(a) of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, Public Law 105–276, approved October 21, 1998, amended this subsection to read as shown. Section 601(b) of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1710 note) provides as follows:

“(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register stating the effective date of the terms and conditions prescribed by the Secretary under section 204(a)(1) of the National Housing Act, as amended by subsection (a) of this section. Subsections (a) and (k) of section 204 of the National Housing Act, as in effect immediately before such effective date, shall continue to apply to any mortgage insured under section 203 of the National Housing Act before such effective date, except that the Secretary may, at the request of the mortgagee, pay insurance benefits as provided in subparagraphs (A) and (D) of section 204(a)(1) of such Act to calculate insurance benefits in accordance with section 204(a)(5) of such Act.”.

(ii) all claims of the mortgagee against the mortgagor or others arising out of the mortgage transaction;

(iii) title evidence satisfactory to the Secretary; and

(iv) such records relating to the mortgage transaction as the Secretary may require.

(B) CONVEYANCE OF TITLE TO PROPERTY.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits if the mortgagee has acquired title to the mortgaged property through foreclosure or has otherwise acquired such property from the mortgagor after a default upon—

(i) the prompt conveyance to the Secretary of title to the property which meets the standards of the Secretary in force at the time the mortgage was insured and which is evidenced in the manner provided by such standards; and

(ii) the assignment to the Secretary of all claims of the mortgagee against the mortgagor or others, arising out of mortgage transaction or foreclosure proceedings, except such claims as may have been released with the consent of the Secretary.

The Secretary may permit the mortgagee to tender to the Secretary a satisfactory conveyance of title and transfer of possession directly from the mortgagor or other appropriate grantor, and may pay to the mortgagee the insurance benefits to which it would otherwise be entitled if such conveyance had been made to the mortgagee and from the mortgagee to the Secretary.

(C) CLAIM WITHOUT CONVEYANCE OF TITLE.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits upon sale of the mortgaged property at foreclosure where such sale is for at least the fair market value of the property (with appropriate adjustments), as determined by the Secretary, and upon assignment to the Secretary of all claims referred to in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B).

(D) PREFORECLOSURE SALE.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits upon the sale of the mortgaged property by the mortgagor after default and the assignment to the Secretary of all claims referred to in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B), if—

(i) the sale of the mortgaged property has been approved by the Secretary;

(ii) the mortgagee receives an amount at least equal to the fair market value of the property (with appropriate adjustments), as determined by the Secretary; and

(iii) the mortgagor has received an appropriate disclosure, as determined by the Secretary.

(2)²⁷ PAYMENT FOR LOSS MITIGATION.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits to the mortgagee to recompense the mortgagee for all or part of any costs of the mortgagee for taking loss mitiga-

²⁷ Indented so in law.

tion actions that provide an alternative to foreclosure of a mortgage that is in default or faces imminent default, as defined by the Secretary (including but not limited to actions such as special forbearance, loan modification, support for borrower housing counseling, partial claims, borrower incentives, preforeclosure sale, and deeds in lieu of foreclosure, but not including assignment of mortgages to the Secretary under section subsection²⁸ (a)(1)(A) or section 230(c)). No actions taken under this paragraph, nor any failure to act under this paragraph, by the Secretary or by a mortgagee shall be subject to judicial review.

(3) DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS PROCEDURE.—The Secretary shall publish guidelines for determining which of the procedures for payment of insurance under paragraph (1) are available to a mortgagee when it claims insurance benefits. At least one of the procedures for payment of insurance benefits specified in paragraph (1)(A) or (1)(B) shall be available to a mortgagee with respect to a mortgage, but the same procedure shall not be required to be available for all of the mortgages held by a mortgagee.

(4) SERVICING OF ASSIGNED MORTGAGES.—If a mortgage is assigned to the Secretary under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary may permit the assigning mortgagee or its servicer to continue to service the mortgage for reasonable compensation and on terms and conditions determined by the Secretary. Neither the Secretary nor any servicer of the mortgage shall be required to forbear from collection of amounts due under the mortgage or otherwise pursue loss mitigation measures.

(5) CALCULATION OF INSURANCE BENEFITS.—Insurance benefits shall be paid in accordance with section 520 and shall be equal to the original principal obligation of the mortgage (with such additions and deductions as the Secretary determines are appropriate) which was unpaid upon the date of—

- (A) assignment of the mortgage to the Secretary;
- (B) the institution of foreclosure proceedings;
- (C) the acquisition of the property after default other than by foreclosure; or
- (D) sale of the mortgaged property by the mortgagor.

(6) FORBEARANCE AND RECASTING AFTER DEFAULT.—The mortgagee may, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe—

- (A) extend the time for the curing of the default and the time for commencing foreclosure proceedings or for otherwise acquiring title to the mortgaged property, to such time as the mortgagee determines is necessary and desirable to enable the mortgagor to complete the mortgage payments, including an extension of time beyond the stated maturity of the mortgage, and in the event of a subsequent foreclosure or acquisition of the property by other means the Secretary may include in the amount of insurance benefits an amount equal to any unpaid mortgage interest; or

²⁸ So in law. Section 203(c)(3) of Public Law 111-22 amended section 204(a)(2) by striking “204(a)(1)(A)” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)(A) or section 230(c)”. Such amendment probably should have struck “section 204(a)(1)(A)”.

(B) provide for a modification of the terms of the mortgage for the purpose of recasting, over the remaining term of the mortgage or over such longer period pursuant to guidelines as may be prescribed by the Secretary, the total unpaid amount then due, with the modification to become effective currently or to become effective upon the termination of an agreed-upon extension of the period for curing the default; and the principal amount of the mortgage, as modified, shall be considered the "original principal obligation of the mortgage" for purposes of paragraph (5).

(7) **TERMINATION OF PREMIUM OBLIGATION.**—The obligation of the mortgagee to pay the premium charges for insurance shall cease upon fulfillment of the appropriate requirements under which the Secretary may pay insurance benefits, as described in paragraph (1). The Secretary may also terminate the mortgagee's obligation to pay mortgage insurance premiums upon receipt of an application filed by the mortgagee for insurance benefits under paragraph (1), or in the event the contract of insurance is terminated pursuant to section 229.

(8) **EFFECT ON PAYMENT OF INSURANCE BENEFITS UNDER SECTION 230.**—Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the Secretary to pay insurance benefits under section 230.

(9) **TREATMENT OF MORTGAGE ASSIGNMENT PROGRAM.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, or the Amended Stipulation entered as a consent decree on November 8, 1979, in *Ferrell v. Cuomo*, No. 73 C 334 (N.D. Ill.), or any other order intended to require the Secretary to operate the program of mortgage assignment and forbearance that was operated by the Secretary pursuant to the Amended Stipulation and under the authority of section 230, prior to its amendment by section 407(b) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (Public Law 104–99; 110 Stat. 45), no mortgage assigned under this section may be included in any mortgage foreclosure avoidance program that is the same or substantially equivalent to such a program of mortgage assignment and forbearance.

(b) The Secretary may at any time, under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, consent to the release of the mortgagor from his liability under the mortgage or the credit instrument secured thereby, or consent to the release of parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage.

(c) **Debentures issued under this section—**

- (1) shall be in such form and amounts;
- (2) shall be subject to such terms and conditions;
- (3) shall include such provisions for redemption, if any, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; and
- (4) may be in book entry or certificated registered form, or such other form as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may prescribe in regulations.

(d) The debentures issued under this section to any mortgagee with respect to mortgages insured under section 203 shall be issued in the name of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund as obligor and shall be negotiable, and, if in book entry form, transferable, in

the manner described by the Secretary in regulations. All such debentures shall be dated as of the date foreclosure proceedings were instituted, or the property was otherwise acquired by the mortgagee after default: *Provided*, That debentures issued pursuant to claims for insurance filed on or after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964²⁹ shall be dated as of the date of default or as of such later date as the Secretary, in his discretion, may establish by regulation. The debentures shall bear interest from such date at a rate established by the Secretary pursuant to section 224, payable semiannually on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July of each year, and shall mature twenty years after the date thereof. Such debentures as are issued in exchange for property covered by mortgages insured under section 203 or section 207 prior to the date of enactment of the National Housing Act Amendments of 1938 shall be subject only to such Federal, State, and local taxes as the mortgages in exchange for which they are issued would be subject to in the hands of the holder of the debentures and shall be a liability of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, but such debentures shall be fully and unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States; but any mortgagee entitled to receive any such debentures may elect to receive in lieu thereof a cash adjustment and debentures issued as hereinafter provided and bearing the current rate of interest. Such debentures as are issued in exchange for property covered by mortgages insured after the date of enactment of the National Housing Act Amendments of 1938 shall be exempt, both as to principal and interest, from all taxation (except surtax, estate, inheritance, and gift taxes) now or hereafter imposed by the United States, by any Territory, dependency, or possession thereof, or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority; and such debentures shall be paid out of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, which shall be primarily liable therefor, and they shall be fully and unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, and, in the case of debentures issued in certificated registered form, such guaranty shall be expressed on the face of the debentures. In the event that the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund fails to pay upon demand, when due, the principal of or interest on any debentures issued under this section, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay to the holders the amount thereof which is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and thereupon to the extent of the amount so paid the Secretary of the Treasury shall succeed to all the rights of the holders of such debentures.

(e)(1) Subject to paragraph (2) the certificate of claim issued by the Secretary to any mortgagee shall be for an amount which the Secretary determines to be sufficient, when added to the face value of the debentures issued and the cash adjustment paid to the mortgagee, to equal the amount which the mortgagee would have received if, at the time of the conveyance to the Secretary of the property covered by the mortgage, the mortgagor had redeemed the property and paid in full all obligations under the mortgage and a reasonable amount for necessary expenses incurred by the mort-

²⁹ September 2, 1964.

gagee in connection with the foreclosure proceedings, or the acquisition of the mortgaged property otherwise, and the conveyance thereof to the Secretary. Each such certificate of claim shall provide that there shall accrue to the holder of such certificate with respect to the face amount of such certificate an increment at the rate of 3 per centum per annum which shall not be compounded. The amount to which the holder of any such certificate shall be entitled shall be determined as provided in subsection (f).

(2) A certificate of claim shall not be issued and the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection shall not be applicable in the case of a mortgage accepted for insurance pursuant to a commitment issued on or after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964.³⁰

(f)(1) If, after deducting (in such manner and amount as the Secretary shall determine to be equitable and in accordance with sound accounting practice) the expenses incurred by the Secretary, the net amounts realized from any property conveyed to the Secretary under this section and the claims assigned therewith exceed the face value of the debentures issued and the cash paid in exchange for such property plus all interest paid on such debentures, such excess shall be divided as follows:

(i) If such excess is greater than the total amount payable under the certificate of claim issued in connection with such property, the Secretary shall pay to the holder of such certificate the full amount so payable, and any excess remaining thereafter shall be paid to the mortgagor of such property if the mortgage was insured under section 203: *Provided*, That on and after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964,³¹ any excess remaining after payment to the holder of the full amount of the certificate of claim, together with the accrued interest increment thereon, shall be retained by the Secretary and credited to the applicable insurance fund; and

(ii) If such excess is equal to or less than the total amount payable under such certificate of claim, the Secretary shall pay to the holder of such certificate the full amount of such excess.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, the Secretary is authorized with respect to mortgages insured pursuant to commitments for insurance issued after the date of enactment of the Housing Amendments of 1955,³¹ and, with the consent of the mortgagee or mortgagor, as the case may be, with respect to mortgages insured pursuant to commitments issued prior to such date, to effect the settlement of certificates of claim and refunds to mortgagors at any time after the sale or transfer of title to the property conveyed to the Secretary under this section and without awaiting the final liquidation of such property for the purpose of determining the net amount to be realized therefrom: *Provided*, That the settlement authority created by the Housing Amendments of 1955 shall be terminated with respect to any certificates of claim outstanding as of the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964.

³⁰ September 2, 1964.

³¹ August 11, 1955.

(3) With the consent of the holder thereof, the Secretary is authorized, without awaiting the final liquidation of the Secretary's interest in the property, to settle any certificate of claim issued pursuant to subsection (e), with respect to which settlement had not been effected prior to the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964, by making payment in cash to the holder thereof of such amount not exceeding the face amount of the certificate of claim, together with the accrued interest thereon, as the Secretary may consider appropriate: *Provided*, That in any case where the certificate of claim is settled in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph, any amounts realized after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964, in the liquidation of the Secretary's interest in the property, shall be retained by the Secretary and credited to the applicable insurance fund.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law relating to the acquisition, handling, or disposal of real property by the United States, the Secretary shall have power to deal with, complete, rent, renovate, modernize, insure, or sell for cash or credit, in his discretion, any properties conveyed to him in exchange for debentures and certificates of claim as provided in this section; and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall also have power to pursue to final collection, by way of compromise or otherwise, all claims against mortgagors assigned by mortgagees to the Secretary as provided in this section: *Provided*, That section 3709 of the Revised Statutes shall not be construed to apply to any contract for hazard insurance, or to any purchase or contract for services or supplies on account of such property if the amount thereof does not exceed \$1,000. The Secretary shall, by regulation, carry out a program of sales of such properties and shall develop and implement appropriate credit terms and standards to be used in carrying out the program. The power to convey and to execute in the name of the Secretary deeds of conveyance, deeds of release, assignments and satisfactions of mortgages, and any other written instrument relating to real or personal property or any interest therein heretofore or hereafter acquired by the Secretary pursuant to the provisions of this Act, may be exercised by an officer appointed by him, without the execution of any express delegation of power or power of attorney: *Provided*, That nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the Secretary from delegating such power by order or by power of attorney, in his discretion, to any officer, agent, or employee he may appoint: *And provided further*, That a conveyance or transfer of title to real or personal property or an interest therein to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, his successors and assigns, without identifying the Secretary therein, shall be deemed a proper conveyance or transfer to the same extent and of like effect as if the Secretary were personally named in such conveyance or transfer. The Secretary may sell real and personal property acquired by the Secretary pursuant to the provisions of this Act on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(h) DISPOSITION OF ASSETS IN REVITALIZATION AREAS.—³²

(1) IN GENERAL.—The purpose of this subsection is to require the Secretary to carry out a program under which eligible assets (as such term is defined in paragraph (2)) shall be made available for sale in a manner that promotes the revitalization, through expanded homeownership opportunities, of revitalization areas. Notwithstanding the authority under the last sentence of subsection (g), the Secretary shall dispose of all eligible assets under the program and shall establish the program in accordance with the requirements under this subsection.

(2) ELIGIBLE ASSETS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term “eligible asset” means any of the following categories of assets of the Secretary, unless the Secretary determines at any time that the asset property is economically or otherwise infeasible to rehabilitate or that the best use of the asset property is as open space (including park land):

(A) PROPERTIES.—Any property that—

- (i) is designed as a dwelling for occupancy by 1 to 4 families;
- (ii) is located in a revitalization area;
- (iii) was previously subject to a mortgage insured under the provisions of this Act; and
- (iv) is owned by the Secretary pursuant to the payment of insurance benefits under this Act.

(B) MORTGAGES.—Any mortgage that—

- (i) is an interest in a property that meets the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A);
- (ii) was previously insured under the provisions of this Act except for mortgages insured under or made pursuant to sections 235, 247, or 255; and
- (iii) is held by the Secretary pursuant to the payment of insurance benefits under this Act.

For purposes of this subsection, an asset under this subparagraph shall be considered to be located in a revitalization area, or in the asset control area of a preferred purchaser, if the property described in clause (i) is located in such area.

(3) REVITALIZATION AREAS.—The Secretary shall designate areas as revitalization areas for purposes of this subsection. Before designation of an area as a revitalization area, the Secretary shall consult with affected units of general local government, States, and Indian tribes and interested nonprofit orga-

³²This subsection was added by section 602 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, Pub. L. 105–276, approved October 21, 1998. Section 1303 of the 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act for Further Recovery From and Response To Terrorist Attacks on the United States, Pub. L. 107–206, approved August 2, 2002, 12 U.S.C. 1710 note, provides, in part, that “[t]he Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall begin to enter into new agreements and contracts pursuant to the Asset Control Area Demonstration Program as provided in section 602 of Public Law 105–276 not later than September 15, 2002: *Provided*, That any agreement or contract entered into pursuant to such program shall be consistent with the requirements of such section 602”.

nizations. The Secretary may designate as revitalization areas only areas that meet one of the following requirements:³³

(A) VERY-LOW INCOME AREA.—The median household income for the area is less than 60 percent of the median household income for—

(i) in the case of any area located within a metropolitan area, such metropolitan area; or

(ii) in the case of any area not located within a metropolitan area, the State in which the area is located.

(B) HIGH CONCENTRATION OF ELIGIBLE ASSETS.—A high rate of default or foreclosure for single family mortgages insured under the National Housing Act has resulted, or may result, in the area—

(i) having a disproportionately high concentration of eligible assets, in comparison with the concentration of such assets in surrounding areas; or

(ii) being detrimentally impacted by eligible assets in the vicinity of the area.

(C) LOW HOME OWNERSHIP RATE.—The rate for home ownership of single family homes in the area is substantially below the rate for homeownership in the metropolitan area.

(4) PREFERENCE FOR SALE TO PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—The Secretary shall provide a preference, among prospective purchasers of eligible assets, for sale of such assets to any purchaser who—

(A) is—

(i) the unit of general local government, State, or Indian tribe having jurisdiction with respect to the area in which are located the eligible assets to be sold; or

(ii) a nonprofit organization;

(B) in making a purchase under the program under this subsection—

(i) establishes an asset control area, which shall be an area that consists of part or all of a revitalization area; and

(ii) purchases all assets of the Secretary in the category or categories of eligible assets set forth in the sale agreement required under paragraph (7) that, at any time during the period which shall be set forth in the sale agreement—

(I) are or become eligible for purchase under this subsection; and

³³Section 142 of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act of 2000 (H.R. 5662, as introduced in the 106th Congress, enacted by section 1(a)(7) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001, Pub. L. 106-554) provides as follows:

“SEC. 142. [12 U.S.C. 1710 note] TRANSFER OF HUD ASSETS IN REVITALIZATION AREAS.

“In carrying out the program under section 204(h) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710(h)), upon the request of the chief executive officer of a county or the government of appropriate jurisdiction and not later than 60 days after such request is made, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall designate as a revitalization area all portions of such county that meet the criteria for such designation under paragraph (3) of such section.”.

(II) are located in the asset control area of the purchaser; and

(C) has the capacity to carry out the purchase of the category or categories of eligible assets set forth in the sale agreement under the program under this subsection and under the provisions of this paragraph.

(5) AGREEMENTS REQUIRED FOR PURCHASE.—

(A) PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—Under the program under this subsection, the Secretary may sell an eligible asset as provided in paragraph (4) to a preferred purchaser only pursuant to a binding agreement by the preferred purchaser that the eligible asset will be used in conjunction with a home ownership plan that provides as follows:

(i) The plan has as its primary purpose the expansion of home ownership in, and the revitalization of, the asset control area, established pursuant to paragraph (4)(B)(i) by the purchaser, in which the eligible asset is located.

(ii) Under the plan, the preferred purchaser has established, and agreed to meet, specific performance goals for increasing the rate of home ownership for eligible assets in the asset control area that are under the purchaser's control. The plan shall provide that the Secretary may waive or modify such goals or deadlines only upon a determination by the Secretary that a good faith effort has been made in complying with the goals through the homeownership plan and that exceptional neighborhood conditions prevented attainment of the goal.

(iii) Under the plan, the preferred purchaser has established rehabilitation standards that meet or exceed the standards for housing quality established under subparagraph (B)(iii) by the Secretary, and has agreed that each asset property for an eligible asset purchased will be rehabilitated in accordance with such standards.

(B) NON-PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—Under the program under this subsection, the Secretary may sell an eligible asset to a purchaser who is not a preferred purchaser only pursuant to a binding agreement by the purchaser that complies with the following requirements:

(i) The purchaser has agreed to meet specific performance goals established by the Secretary for home ownership of the asset properties for the eligible assets purchased by the purchaser, except that the Secretary may, by including a provision in the sale agreement required under paragraph (7), provide for a lower rate of home ownership in sales involving exceptional circumstances.

(ii) The purchaser has agreed that each asset property for an eligible asset purchased will be rehabilitated to comply with minimum standards for housing quality established by the Secretary for purposes of the program under this subsection.

(6) DISCOUNT FOR PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of providing a public purpose discount for the bulk sales of eligible assets made under the program under this subsection by preferred purchasers, each eligible asset sold through the program under this subsection to a preferred purchaser shall be sold at a price that is discounted from the value of the asset, as based on the appraised value of the asset property (as such term is defined in paragraph (8)).

(B) APPRAISALS.—The Secretary shall require that each appraisal of an eligible asset under this paragraph is based upon—

(i) the market value of the asset property in its “as is” physical condition, which shall take into consideration age and condition of major mechanical and structural systems; and

(ii) the value of the property appraised for home ownership.

(C) DISCOUNTS.—The Secretary, in the sole discretion of the Secretary, shall establish the discount under this paragraph for an eligible asset. In determining the discount, the Secretary may consider the condition of the asset property, the extent of resources available to the preferred purchaser, the comprehensive revitalization plan undertaken by such purchaser, the financial safety and soundness of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, and any other circumstances the Secretary considers appropriate³⁴

(7) SALE AGREEMENT.—The Secretary may sell an eligible asset under this subsection only pursuant to a sale agreement entered into under this paragraph with the purchaser, which shall include the following provisions:

(A) ASSETS.—The sale agreement shall identify the category or categories of eligible assets to be purchased and, based on the purchaser’s capacity to manage and dispose of assets, the maximum number of assets owned by the Secretary at the time the sale agreement is executed that shall be sold to the purchaser.

(B) REVITALIZATION AREA AND ASSET CONTROL AREA.—The sale agreement shall identify—

(i) the boundaries of the specific revitalization areas (or portions thereof) in which are located the eligible assets that are covered by the agreement; and

(ii) in the case of a preferred purchaser, the asset control area established pursuant to paragraph (4)(B)(i) that is covered by the agreement.

(C) FINANCING.—The sale agreement shall identify the sources of financing for the purchase of the eligible assets.

(D) BINDING AGREEMENTS.—The sale agreement shall contain binding agreements by the purchaser sufficient to comply with—

³⁴ So in law. Probably should include a period.

(i) in the case of a preferred purchaser, the requirements under paragraph (5)(A), which agreements shall provide that the eligible assets purchased will be used in conjunction with a home ownership plan meeting the requirements of such paragraph, and shall set forth the terms of the homeownership plan, including—

(I) the goals of the plan for the eligible assets purchased and for the asset control area subject to the plan;

(II) the revitalization areas (or portions thereof) in which the homeownership plan is operating or will operate;

(III) the specific use or disposition of the eligible assets under the plan; and

(IV) any activities to be conducted and services to be provided under the plan; or

(ii) in the case of a purchaser who is not a preferred purchaser, the requirements under paragraph (5)(B).

(E) PURCHASE PRICE AND DISCOUNT.—The sale agreement shall establish the purchase price of the eligible assets, which in the case of a preferred purchaser shall provide for a discount in accordance with paragraph (6).

(F) HOUSING QUALITY.—The sale agreement shall provide for compliance of the eligible assets purchased with the rehabilitation standards established under paragraph (5)(A)(iii) or the minimum standards for housing quality established under paragraph (5)(B)(ii), as applicable, and shall specify such standards.

(G) PERFORMANCE GOALS AND SANCTIONS.—The sale agreement shall set forth the specific performance goals applicable to the purchaser, in accordance with paragraph (5), shall set forth any sanctions for failure to meet such goals and deadlines, and shall require the purchaser to certify compliance with such goals.

(H) PERIOD COVERED.—The sale agreement shall establish—

(i) in the case of a preferred purchaser, the time period referred to in paragraph (4)(B)(ii); and

(ii) in the case of a purchaser who is not a preferred purchaser, the time period for purchase of eligible assets that may be covered by the purchase.

(I) OTHER TERMS.—The agreement shall contain such other terms and conditions as may be necessary to require that eligible assets purchased under the agreement are used in accordance with the program under this subsection.

(8) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions shall apply:

(A) ASSET CONTROL AREA.—The term “asset control area” means the area established by a preferred purchaser pursuant to paragraph (4)(B)(i).

(B) ASSET PROPERTY.—The term “asset property” means—

(i) with respect to an eligible asset that is a property, such property; and

(ii) with respect to an eligible asset that is a mortgage, the property that is subject to the mortgage.

(C) ELIGIBLE ASSET.—The term “eligible asset” means an asset described in paragraph (2).

(D) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term “nonprofit organization” means a private organization that—

(i) is organized under State or local laws;

(ii) has no part of its net earnings inuring to the benefit of any member, shareholder, founder, contributor, or individual; and

(iii) complies with standards of financial responsibility that the Secretary may require.

(E) PREFERRED PURCHASER.—The term “preferred purchaser” means a purchaser described in paragraph (4).

(F) UNIT OF GENERAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “unit of general local government” means any city, town, township, county, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State, and any agency or instrumentality thereof that is established pursuant to legislation and designated by the chief executive officer to act on behalf of the jurisdiction with regard to the provisions of this subsection.

(G) STATE.—The term “State” means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, or any agency or instrumentality thereof that is established pursuant to legislation and designated by the chief executive officer to act on behalf of the State with regard to provisions of this subsection.

(H) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe” has the same meaning as in section 248(i)(I) of this Act.

(9) SECRETARY’S DISCRETION.—The Secretary shall have the authority to implement and administer the program under this subsection in such manner as the Secretary may determine. The Secretary may, in the sole discretion of the Secretary, enter into contracts to provide for the proper administration of the program with such public or nonprofit entities as the Secretary determines are qualified.

(10) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations to implement the program under this subsection through rule-making in accordance with the procedures established under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, regarding substantive rules. Such regulations shall take effect not later than the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing

and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999.³⁵

(i) No mortgagee or mortgagor shall have, and no certificate of claim shall be construed to give to any mortgagee or mortgagor, any right or interest in any property conveyed to the Secretary or in any claim assigned to him; nor shall the Secretary owe any duty to any mortgagee or mortgagor with respect to the handling or disposal of any such property or the collection of any such claim.

(j) In the event that any mortgagee under a mortgage insured under section 203 (other than a mortgagee receiving insurance benefits under clause (1)(A) of the second sentence of subsection (a)) forecloses on the mortgaged property but does not convey such property to the Secretary in accordance with this section, and the Secretary is given written notice thereof, or in the event that the mortgagor pays the obligation under the mortgage in full prior to the maturity thereof, and the mortgagee pays any adjusted premium charged required under the provisions of section 203(c), and the Secretary is given written notice by the mortgagee of the payment of such obligation, the obligation to pay any subsequent premium charge for insurance shall cease, and all rights of the mortgagee and the mortgagor under this section shall terminate as of the date of such notice.

[(k) [Repealed.]]³⁶]

(1)(1) Whenever the Secretary or a contract mortgagee (pursuant to its contract with the Secretary) forecloses on a Secretary-held single family mortgage in any Federal or State court or pursuant to a power of sale in a mortgage, the purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall be entitled to receive a conveyance of title to, and possession of, the property, subject to the interests senior to the interests of the Secretary or the contract mortgagee, as the case may be. Notwithstanding any State law to the contrary, there shall be no right of redemption (including in all instances any right to possession based upon any right of redemption) in the mortgagor or any other person subsequent to the foreclosure sale in connection with a Secretary-held single family mortgage. The appropriate State official or the trustee, as the case may be, shall execute and deliver a deed or other appropriate instrument conveying title to the purchaser at the foreclosure sale, consistent with applicable procedures in the jurisdiction and without regard to any such right of redemption.

(2) The following actions shall be taken in order to verify title in the purchaser at the foreclosure sale:

³⁵The date of enactment was October 21, 1998.

³⁶Section 601(c) of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, Public Law 105-276, approved October 21, 1998, repealed this subsection. Section 601(b) of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1710 note) provides as follows:

“(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register stating the effective date of the terms and conditions prescribed by the Secretary under section 204(a)(1) of the National Housing Act, as amended by subsection (a) of this section. Subsections (a) and (k) of section 204 of the National Housing Act, as in effect immediately before such effective date, shall continue to apply to any mortgage insured under section 203 of the National Housing Act before such effective date, except that the Secretary may, at the request of the mortgagee, pay insurance benefits as provided in subparagraphs (A) and (D) of section 204(a)(1) of such Act to calculate insurance benefits in accordance with section 204(a)(5) of such Act.”.

(A) In the case of a judicial foreclosure in any Federal or State court, there shall be included in the petition and in the judgment of foreclosure a statement that the foreclosure is in accordance with this subsection and that there is no right of redemption in the mortgagor or any other person.

(B) In the case of a foreclosure pursuant to a power of sale provision in the mortgage, the statement required in subparagraph (A) shall be included in the advertisement of the sale and either in the recitals of the deed or other appropriate instrument conveying title to the purchaser at the foreclosure sale or in an affidavit or addendum to the deed.

(3) For purposes of this subsection:

(A) The term “contract mortgagee” means a person or entity under a contract with the Secretary that provides for the assignment of a single-family mortgage from the Secretary to the person or entity for the purpose of pursuing foreclosure.

(B) the term “mortgage” means a deed of trust, mortgage, deed to secure debt, security agreement, or any other form of instrument under which any interest in property, real, personal, or mixed, or any interest in property, including leaseholds, life estates, reversionary interests, and any other estates under applicable State law, is conveyed in trust, mortgaged, encumbered, pledged, or otherwise rendered subject to a lien, for the purpose of securing the payment of money or the performance of an obligation.

(C) The term “Secretary-held single family mortgage” means a single-family mortgage held by the Secretary or by a contract mortgagee at the time of initiation of foreclosure that—

(i) was formerly insured by the Secretary under any section of this title; or

(ii) was taken by the Secretary as a purchase money mortgage in connection with the sale or other transfer of Secretary-owned property under any section of this title.

(D) The term “single-family mortgage” means a mortgage that covers property on which is located a 1-to-4 family residence.

CLASSIFICATION OF MORTGAGES AND INSURANCE FUND

SEC. 205. [12 U.S.C. 1711] (a) The Secretary shall establish as of July 1, 1954, in the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund a General Surplus Account and a Participating Reserve Account. All of the assets of the General Reinsurance Account shall be transferred to the General Surplus Account whereupon the General Reinsurance Account shall be abolished. There shall be transferred from the various group accounts to the Participating Reserve Account as of July 1, 1954, an amount equal to the aggregate amount which would have been distributed under the provisions of section 205 in effect on June 30, 1954, if all outstanding mortgages in such group accounts had been paid in full on said date. All of the remaining balances of said group accounts shall as of said date be transferred to the General Surplus Account whereupon all of said group accounts shall be abolished.

(b) The aggregate net income thereafter received or any net loss thereafter sustained by the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund in any semiannual period shall be credited or charged to the General Surplus Account and/or the Participating Reserve Account in such manner and amounts as the Secretary may determine to be in accord with sound actuarial and accounting practice.

(c) Upon termination of the insurance obligation of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund by payment of any mortgage insured thereunder, the Secretary is authorized to distribute to the mortgagor a share of the Participating Reserve Account in such manner and amount as the Secretary shall determine to be equitable and in accordance with sound actuarial and accounting practice: *Provided*, That, in no event, shall any such distributable share exceed the aggregate scheduled annual premiums of the mortgagor to the year of termination of the insurance. The Secretary shall not distribute any share to an eligible mortgagor under this subsection beginning on the date which is 6 years after the date the Secretary first transmitted written notification of eligibility to the last known address of the mortgagor, unless the mortgagor has applied in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary for payment of the share within the 6-year period. The Secretary shall transfer any amounts no longer eligible for distribution under the previous sentence from the Participating Reserve Account to the General Surplus Account.

(d) No mortgagor or mortgagee of any mortgage insured under section 203 shall have any vested right in a credit balance in any such account or be subject to any liability arising out of the mutuality of the Fund and the determination of the Secretary as to the amount to be paid by him to any mortgagor shall be final and conclusive.

(e) In determining whether there is a surplus for distribution to mortgagors under this section, the Secretary shall take into account the actuarial status of the entire Fund.

(f)(1) The Secretary shall ensure that the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund attains a capital ratio of not less than 1.25 percent within 24 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection³⁷ and maintains such ratio thereafter, subject to paragraph (2).

(2) The Secretary shall endeavor to ensure that the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund attains a capital ratio of not less than 2.0 percent within 10 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection³⁷, and shall ensure that the Fund maintains at least such capital ratio at all times thereafter.

(3) Upon the expiration of the 24-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this subsection³⁷, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a report describing the actions the Secretary will take to ensure that the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund attains the capital ratio required under paragraph (2).

(4) For purposes of this subsection:

(A) The term "capital" means the economic net worth of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, as determined by the Secretary under the annual audit required under section 538.

³⁷The date of enactment was November 5, 1990.

(B) The term “capital ratio” means the ratio of capital to unamortized insurance-in-force.

(C) The term “economic net worth” means the current cash available to the Fund, plus the net present value of all future cash inflows and outflows expected to result from the outstanding mortgages in the Fund.

(D) The term “unamortized insurance-in-force” means the remaining obligation on outstanding mortgages which are obligations of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, as estimated by the Secretary.

INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

SEC. 206. [12 U.S.C. 1712] Moneys in the Fund not needed for the current operations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development related to insurance under section 203 shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States to the credit of the Fund, or invested in bonds or other obligations of, or in bonds or other obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States or any agency of the United States: *Provided*, That such moneys shall to the maximum extent feasible be invested in such bonds or other obligations the proceeds of which will be used to directly support the residential mortgage market. The Secretary may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, purchase in the open market debentures issued under the provisions of section 204. Such purchases shall be made at a price which will provide an investment yield of not less than the yield obtainable from other investments authorized by this section. Debentures so purchased shall be canceled and not reissued, and the several group accounts to which such debentures have been charged shall be charged with the amounts used in making such purchases.

SEC. 206A. [12 U.S.C. 1712a] INDEXING OF FHA MULTIFAMILY HOUSING LOAN LIMITS.

(a) **METHOD OF INDEXING.**—The dollar amounts set forth in—

- (1) section 207(c)(3)(A) (12 U.S.C. 1713(c)(3)(A));
- (2) section 213(b)(2)(A) (12 U.S.C. 1715e(b)(2)(A));
- (3) section 220(d)(3)(B)(iii)(I) (12 U.S.C. 1715k(d)(3)(B)(iii)(I));
- (4) section 221(d)(3)(ii)(I) (12 U.S.C. 1715l(d)(3)(ii)(I));
- (5) section 221(d)(4)(ii)(I) (12 U.S.C. 1715l(d)(4)(ii)(I));
- (6) section 231(c)(2)(A) (12 U.S.C. 1715v(c)(2)(A)); and
- (7) section 234(e)(3)(A) (12 U.S.C. 1715y(e)(3)(A));

(collectively hereinafter referred to as the “Dollar Amounts”) shall be adjusted annually (commencing in 2004) on the effective date of the Federal Reserve Board’s adjustment of the \$400 figure in the Home Ownership and Equity Protection Act of 1994 (HOEPA). The adjustment of the Dollar Amounts shall be calculated using the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as applied by the Federal Reserve Board for purposes of the above-described HOEPA adjustment.

(b) **NOTIFICATION.**—The Federal Reserve Board on a timely basis shall notify the Secretary, or his designee, in writing of the adjustment described in subsection (a) and of the effective date of such adjustment in order to permit the Secretary to undertake pub-

lication in the Federal Register of corresponding adjustments to the Dollar Amounts. The dollar amount of any adjustment shall be rounded to the next lower dollar.

RENTAL HOUSING INSURANCE

SEC. 207. [12 U.S.C. 1713] (a) As used in this section—

(1) The term “mortgage” means a first mortgage on real estate in fee simple, or on the interest of either the lessor or lessee thereof (A) under a lease for not less than ninety-nine years which is renewable or (B) under a lease having a period of not less than fifty years to run from the date the mortgage was executed, upon which there is located or upon which there is to be constructed a building or buildings designed principally for residential use or upon which there is located or to be constructed facilities for manufactured homes; and the term “first mortgage” means such classes of first liens as are commonly given to secure advances (including but not being limited to advances during construction) on, or the unpaid purchase price of, real estate under the laws of the State in which the real estate is located, together with the credit instrument or instruments, if any, secured thereby, and may be in the form of trust mortgages or mortgage indentures or deeds of trust securing notes, bonds, or other credit instruments.

(2) The term “mortgagee” means the original lender under a mortgage, and its successors and assigns, and includes the holders of credit instruments issued under a trust mortgage or deed of trust pursuant to which such holders act by and through a trustee therein named.

(3) The term “mortgagor” means the original borrower under a mortgage and its successors and assigns.

(4) The term “maturity date” means the date on which the mortgage indebtedness would be extinguished if paid in accordance with the periodic payments provided for in the mortgage.

(5) The term “slum or blighted area” means any area where dwellings predominate which, by reason of dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light or sanitation facilities, or any combination of these factors, are detrimental to safety, health, or morals.

(6) The term “rental housing” means housing, the occupancy of which is permitted by the owner thereof in consideration of the payment of agreed charges, whether or not, by the terms of the agreement, such payment over a period of time will entitle the occupant to the ownership of the premises or space in a manufactured home court or park properly arranged and equipped to accommodate manufactured homes.

(7) The term “State” includes the several States, and Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

(b) In addition to mortgages insured under section 203, the Secretary is authorized to insure mortgages as defined in this section (including advances on such mortgages during construction) which cover property held by—

(1) Federal or State instrumentalities, municipal corporate instrumentalities of one or more States, or limited dividend or rede-

velopment or housing corporations restricted by Federal or State laws or regulations of State banking or insurance departments as to rents, charges, capital structure, rate of return, or methods of operation; or

(2) any other mortgagor approved by the Secretary. The Secretary may, in the Secretary's discretion, require any such mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to rents or sales, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operation so as to provide reasonable rentals to tenants and a reasonable return on the investment. Any such regulations or restrictions shall continue for such period or periods as the Secretary, in the Secretary's discretion, may require, including until the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance and during such further period of time as the Secretary shall be the owner, holder, or reinsurer of the mortgage. The Secretary may make such contracts with and acquire, for not to exceed \$100, such stock or interest in the mortgagor as he may deem necessary to render effective any such regulations or restrictions. The stock or interest acquired by the Secretary shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund, and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance.

The insurance of mortgages under this section is intended to facilitate particularly the production of rental accommodations, at reasonable rents, of design and size suitable for family living. The Secretary is, therefore, authorized in the administration of this section to take action, by regulation or otherwise, which will direct the benefits of mortgage insurance hereunder primarily to those projects which make adequate provision for families with children, and in which every effort has been made to achieve moderate rental charges.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, the Secretary may not insure any mortgage under this section (except a mortgage with respect to a manufactured home park designed exclusively for occupancy by elderly persons) unless the mortgagor certifies under oath that in selecting tenants for the property covered by the mortgage he will not discriminate against any family by reason of the fact that there are children in the family, and that he will not sell the property while the insurance is in effect unless the purchaser so certifies, such certification to be filed with the Secretary. Violation of any such certification shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.

(c) To be eligible for insurance under this section a mortgage on any property or project shall involve a principal obligation in an amount—

[(1) **Repealed.**]

(2) not to exceed 90 per centum of the estimated value of the property or project (when the proposed improvements are completed): *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to mortgages on housing in Alaska, or in Guam, but such a mortgage may involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed improvements are completed (the value of the property or project as such term is used in this paragraph

may include the land, the proposed physical improvements, utilities within the boundaries of the property or project, architect's fees, taxes, and interest accruing during construction, and other miscellaneous charges incident to construction and approved by the Secretary). *And provided further*, That nothing contained in this section shall preclude the insurance of mortgages covering existing construction located in slum or blighted areas, as defined in paragraph numbered (5) of subsection (a) of this section, and the Secretary may require such repair or rehabilitation work to be completed as is, in his discretion, necessary to remove conditions detrimental to safety, health, or morals; and

(3)(A) not to exceed, for such part of the property or projects as may be attributable to dwelling use (excluding exterior and land improvements as defined by the Secretary), \$38,025 per family unit without bedroom, \$42,120 per family unit with one bedroom, \$50,310 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$62,010 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$70,200 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, or not to exceed \$17,460 per space; except that as to projects to consist of elevator-type structures the Secretary may, in his discretion, increase the dollar amount limitations per family unit to not to exceed \$43,875 per family unit without a bedroom, \$49,140 per family unit with one bedroom, \$60,255 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$75,465 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$85,328 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, as the case may be, to compensate for the higher costs incident to the construction of elevator type structures of sound standards of construction and design; and except that the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the foregoing dollar amount limitations contained in this paragraph³⁸ by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis, but in no case may any such increase exceed 90 percent where the Secretary determines that a mortgage purchased or to be purchased by the Government National Mortgage Association in implementing its special assistance functions under section 305 of this Act (as such section existed immediately before November 30, 1983) is involved.

The mortgage shall provide for complete amortization by periodic payments (unless otherwise approved by the Secretary)³⁹

³⁸ Section 5(b)(1)(B) of the FHA Downpayment Simplification Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-326, 116 Stat. 2794, approved December 24, 2002, amends this paragraph as follows:

"(B) by striking 'and accept that the Secretary' through and including 'in this paragraph' and inserting in lieu thereof:

"(B) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the dollar amount limitations in subparagraph (A) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act)".

The amendment could not be executed.

³⁹ Section 446 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983, Pub. L. 98-181, approved November 30, 1983, added this parenthetical in sections 207(c)(3), 220(d)(4), 221(d)(6), and 231(c)(5) of the National Housing Act. Subsection (f) of such section (12 U.S.C. 1713 note) further provides as follows:

within such term as the Secretary shall prescribe, and shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee. The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and the mortgage may provide for such release. No mortgage shall be accepted for insurance under this section or section 210 unless the Secretary finds that the property or project, with respect to which the mortgage is executed, is economically sound. Such property or project may include five or more family units and may include such commercial and community facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, the amount which may be insured under this section may be increased by up to 20 percent if such increase is necessary to account for the increased cost of the project due to the installation therein of a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11)(A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95–619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure.

(d) The Secretary shall collect a premium charge for the insurance of mortgages under this section which shall be payable annually in advance by the mortgagee, either in cash or in debentures issued by the Secretary under any title and section of this Act, except debentures of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, or of the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund, at par plus accrued interest. In addition to the premium charge herein provided for, the Secretary is authorized to charge and collect such amounts as he may deem reasonable for the appraisal of a property or project offered for insurance and for the inspection of such property or project during construction: *Provided*, That such charges for appraisal and inspection shall not aggregate more than 1 per centum of the original principal face amount of the mortgage.

(e) In the event that the principal obligation of any mortgage accepted for insurance under this section is paid in full prior to the maturity date, the Secretary is authorized in his discretion to require the payment by the mortgagee of an adjusted premium charge in such amount as the Secretary determines to be equitable, but not in excess of the aggregate amount of the premium charges that the mortgagee would otherwise have been required to pay if the mortgage had continued to be insured until such maturity date.

[(f) [Repealed.]]

(g) The failure of the mortgagor to make any payment due under or provided to be paid by the terms of a mortgage insured under this section shall be considered a default under such mortgage and, if such default continues for a period of thirty days, the mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as hereinafter provided, upon assignment, transfer, and delivery to

^(f) The aggregate number of dwelling units included in properties covered by mortgages insured pursuant to the authority granted in the amendments made by this section in any fiscal year may not exceed 10,000.”

the Secretary, within a period and in accordance with rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of (1) all rights and interests arising under the mortgage so in default; (2) all claims of the mortgagee against the mortgagor or others, arising out of the mortgage transactions; (3) all policies of title or other insurance or surety bonds or other guaranties and any and all claims thereunder; (4) any balance of the mortgage loan not advanced to the mortgagor; (5) any cash or property held by the mortgagee, or to which it is entitled, as deposits made for the account of the mortgagor and which have not been applied in reduction of the principal of the mortgage indebtedness; and (6) all records, documents, books, papers, and accounts relating to the mortgage transaction. Upon such assignment, transfer, and delivery the obligation of the mortgagee to pay the premium charges for mortgage insurance shall cease, and the Secretary shall issue to the mortgagee a certificate of claim as provided in subsection (h), and debentures having a par value equal to the original principal face amount of the mortgage plus such amount as the mortgagee may have paid for (A) taxes, special assessments, and water rates, which are liens prior to the mortgage; (B) insurance on the property; and (C) reasonable expenses for the completion and preservation of the property and any mortgage insurance premiums paid after default, less the sum of (i) that part of the amount of the principal obligation that has been repaid by the mortgagor, (ii) an amount equivalent to 1 per centum of the unpaid amount of such principal obligation, and (iii) any net income received by the mortgagee from the property: *Provided*, That the mortgagee in the event of a default under the mortgage may, at its option and in accordance with regulations of, and in a period to be determined by, the Secretary, proceed to foreclose on and obtain possession of or otherwise acquire such property from the mortgagor after default, and receive the benefits of the insurance as herein provided, upon (1) the prompt conveyance to the Secretary of title to the property which meets the requirements of the rules and regulations of the Secretary in force at the time the mortgage was insured and which is evidenced in the manner prescribed by such rules and regulations, and (2) the assignment to him of all claims of the mortgagee against the mortgagor or others, arising out of the mortgage transaction or foreclosure proceedings, except such claims that may have been released with the consent of the Secretary. Upon such conveyance and assignment, the obligation of the mortgagee to pay the premium charges for insurance shall cease and the mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as provided in this subsection, except that in such event the 1 per centum deduction, set out in (ii) hereof, shall not apply. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, upon receipt, after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964,⁴⁰ of an application for insurance benefits on a mortgage insured under this Act, the Secretary may terminate the mortgagee's obligation to pay premium charges on the mortgage.

(h) The certificate of claim issued under this section shall be for an amount which the Secretary determines to be sufficient, when added to the face value of the debentures issued and the cash

⁴⁰September 2, 1964.

adjustment paid to the mortgagee, to equal the amount which the mortgagee would have received if, on the date of the assignment, transfer and delivery to the Secretary provided for in subsection (g), the mortgagor had extinguished the mortgage indebtedness by payment in full of all obligations under the mortgage and a reasonable amount for necessary expenses incurred by the mortgagee in connection with the foreclosure proceedings, or the acquisition of the mortgaged property otherwise, and the conveyance thereof to the Secretary. Each such certificate of claim shall provide that there shall accrue to the holder of such certificate with respect to the face amount of such certificate, an increment at the rate of 3 per centum per annum which shall not be compounded. If the net amount realized from the mortgage, and all claims in connection therewith, so assigned, transferred, and delivered, and from the property covered by such mortgage and all claims in connection with such property after deducting all expenses incurred by the Secretary in handling, dealing with, acquiring title to, and disposing of such mortgage and property and in collecting such claims, exceeds the face value of the debentures issued and the cash adjustment paid to the mortgagee plus all interest paid on such debentures, such excess shall be divided as follows:

(1) If such excess is greater than the total amount payable under the certificate of claim issued in connection with such property, the Secretary shall pay to the holder of such certificate the full amount so payable, and any excess remaining thereafter shall be retained by the Secretary and credited to the General Insurance Fund; and

(2) If such excess is equal to or less than the total amount payable under such certificate of claim, the Secretary shall pay to the holder of such certificate the full amount of such excess.

(i) Debentures issued under this section shall be executed in the name of the General Insurance Fund as obligor, shall be negotiable, and, if in book entry form, transferable, in the manner described by the Secretary in regulations, and shall be dated as of the date of default as determined in subsection (g) of this section, except that debentures issued pursuant to the provisions of section 220(f), section 221(g), and section 233 may be dated as of the date the mortgage is assigned (or the property is conveyed) to the Secretary and shall bear interest from such date. They shall bear interest at a rate established by the Secretary pursuant to section 224, payable semiannually on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July of each year, and shall mature twenty years after the date thereof. Such debentures as are issued in exchange for mortgages insured after the date of enactment of the National Housing Act Amendments of 1938 shall be exempt, both as to principal and interest, from all taxation (except surtaxes, estate, inheritance, and gift taxes) now or hereafter imposed by the United States, by any Territory, dependency, or possession thereof, or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority. They shall be paid out of the General Insurance Fund which shall be primarily liable therefor and they shall be fully and unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, and, in the case of debentures issued in certificated registered form, such guaranty shall be expressed on the face of the debentures. In the event the

General Insurance Fund fails to pay upon demand, when due, the principal of or interest on any debentures so guaranteed, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay to the holders the amount thereof which is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and thereupon, to the extent of the amount so paid, the Secretary of the Treasury shall succeed to all the rights of the holders of such debentures.

(j) Debentures issued under this section—

- (1) shall be in such form and amounts;
- (2) shall be subject to such terms and conditions;
- (3) shall include such provisions for redemption, if any, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; and
- (4) may be in book entry or certificated registered form, or such other form as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may prescribe in regulations.

(k) The Secretary is hereby authorized either to (1) acquire possession of and title to any property, covered by a mortgage insured under this section and assigned to him, by voluntary conveyance in extinguishment of the mortgage indebtedness, or (2) institute proceedings for foreclosure on the property covered by any such insured mortgage and prosecute such proceedings to conclusion. The Secretary at any sale under foreclosure may, in his discretion, for the protection of the General Insurance Fund, bid any sum up to but not in excess of the total unpaid indebtedness secured by the mortgage, plus taxes, insurance, foreclosure costs, fees, and other expenses and may become the purchaser of the property at such sale. In determining the amount to be bid, the Secretary shall act consistently with the goal established in section 203(a)(1) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978. The Secretary is authorized to pay from the General Insurance Fund such sums as may be necessary to defray such taxes, insurance, costs, fees, and other expenses in connection with the acquisition or foreclosure of property under this section. Pending such acquisition by voluntary conveyance or by foreclosure, the Secretary is authorized, with respect to any mortgage assigned to him under the provisions of subsection (g), to exercise all the rights of a mortgagee under such mortgage, including the right to sell such mortgage, and to take such action and advance such sums as may be necessary to preserve or protect the lien of such mortgage.

(l) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law relating to the acquisition, handling, or disposal of real and other property by the United States, the Secretary shall also have power, for the protection of the interests of the General Insurance Fund, to pay out of the General Insurance Fund all expenses or charges in connection with, and to deal with, complete, reconstruct, rent, renovate, modernize, insure, make contracts for the management of, or establish suitable agencies for the management of, or sell for cash or credit or lease in his discretion, any property acquired by him under this section; and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall also have power to pursue to final collection by way of compromise or otherwise all claims assigned and transferred to him in connection with the assignment, transfer, and delivery pro-

vided for in this section, and at any time, upon default, to foreclose on any property secured by any mortgage assigned and transferred to or held by him: *Provided*, That section 3709 of the Revised Statutes shall not be construed to apply to any contract for hazard insurance, or to any purchase or contract for services or supplies on account of such property if the amount thereof does not exceed \$1,000.

[(m) [Repealed.]]

(n) In the event that a mortgage insured under this section becomes in default through failure of the mortgagor to make any payment due under or provided to be paid by the terms of the mortgage and such mortgage continues in default for a period of thirty days, but the mortgagee does not foreclose on or otherwise acquire the property, or does not assign and transfer such mortgage and the credit instrument secured thereby to the Secretary, in accordance with subsection (g), and the Secretary is given written notice thereof, or in the event that a mortgagor pays the obligation under the mortgage in full prior to the maturity thereof, and the mortgagee pays any adjusted premium charge required under the provisions of subsection (e), and the Secretary is given written notice by the mortgagee of the payment of such obligation, the obligation to pay the annual premium charge for insurance shall cease, and all rights of the mortgagee and the mortgagor under this section shall terminate as of the date of such notice.

(o) The Secretary, with the consent of the mortgagee and the mortgagor of a mortgage insured under this section prior to the date of enactment of the National Housing Act Amendments of 1938, shall be empowered to reissue such mortgage insurance in accordance with the provisions of this section as amended by such Act, and any such insurance not so reissued shall not be affected by the enactment of such Act.

[(p) [Repealed.]]

[(q) [Repealed.]]

(r) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, the Secretary is authorized to include in any mortgage insured under any title of this Act after the effective date of the Housing Act of 1959⁴¹ a provision requiring the mortgagor to pay a service charge to the Secretary in the event such mortgage is assigned to and held by the Secretary. Such service charge shall not exceed the amount prescribed by the Secretary for mortgage insurance premiums applicable to such mortgage.

TAXATION PROVISIONS

SEC. 208. **[12 U.S.C. 1714]** Nothing in this title shall be construed to exempt any real property acquired and held by the Secretary under this title from taxation by any State or political subdivision thereof, to the same extent, according to its value, as other real property is taxed.

⁴¹September 23, 1959.

STATISTICAL AND ECONOMIC SURVEYS

SEC. 209. [12 U.S.C. 1715] The Secretary shall cause to be made in connection with the insurance programs such statistical surveys and legal and economic studies as he shall deem useful to guide the development of housing and the creation of a sound mortgage market in the United States, and shall publish from time to time the results of such surveys and studies. Expenses of such studies and surveys, and expenses of publication and distribution of the results of such studies and surveys, shall be charged as a general expense of such insurance fund or funds, as the Secretary shall determine.

[ADDITIONAL HOUSING INSURANCE]

[SEC. 210. [Repealed.]]

RULES AND REGULATIONS

SEC. 211. [12 U.S.C. 1715b] The Secretary is authorized and directed to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

LABOR STANDARDS

SEC. 212. [12 U.S.C. 1715c] (a) The Secretary shall not insure under section 207 or section 210 of this title, or under section 608 of title VI, pursuant to any application for insurance filed subsequent to the effective date of this section, or under section 213 of this title, or under title VII pursuant to any application filed subsequent to sixty days after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1950, or under section 803 or 810 of title VIII, or under section 908 of title IX, a mortgage or investment which covers property on which there is or is to be located a dwelling or dwellings, or a housing project, the construction of which was or is to be commenced subsequent to such date, unless the principal contractor files a certificate or certificates (at such times, in course of construction or otherwise, as the Secretary may prescribe) certifying that the laborers and mechanics employed in the construction of the dwelling or dwellings or the housing project involved have been paid not less than the wages prevailing in the locality in which the work was performed for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction of a similar character, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 276a—276a-5), prior to the beginning of construction and after the date of the filing of the application for insurance. The provisions of this section shall also apply to the insurance of any loan or mortgage under section 220 or section 233 which covers property on which there is located a dwelling or dwellings designed principally for residential use for twelve or more families. The provisions of this section shall apply to the insurance under section 221 of any mortgage described in subsection (d)(3) or (d)(4) and (deeming the term “construction” as used in the first sentence of this section to mean rehabilitation) of any mortgage described in subsection (h)(1) or section 235(j)(1) which covers property on which there is located a dwelling or dwellings designed

principally for residential use for more than eight families; except that compliance with such provisions may be waived by the Secretary—

(1) with respect to mortgages described in such subsection (d)(3) or (d)(4) in cases or classes of cases where laborers or mechanics (not otherwise employed at any time in the construction of the project) voluntarily donate their services without compensation for the purpose of lowering their housing costs in a cooperative housing project and the Secretary determines that any amounts saved thereby are fully credited to the cooperative undertaking the construction, and

(2) with respect to mortgages described in such subsection (h)(1) or section 235(j)(1), in cases or classes of cases where prospective owners of such dwellings voluntarily donate their services without compensation, or other persons (not otherwise employed at any time in the rehabilitation of the property) voluntarily donate their services without compensation, and the Secretary determines that any amounts saved thereby are fully credited to the nonprofit organization undertaking the rehabilitation.

The provisions of this section shall also apply to the insurance of any mortgage under section 231, 232, or 236 except that compliance with such provisions may be waived by the Secretary in cases or classes of cases where laborers or mechanics, not otherwise employed at any time on the project, voluntarily donate their services without full compensation for the purpose of lowering the costs of construction and the Secretary determines that any amounts thereby saved are fully credited to the nonprofit corporation, association or other organization undertaking the construction. The provisions of this section shall also apply to the insurance of any mortgage under section 234(d). The provisions of this section shall also apply to the insurance of any mortgage under section 242, except that compliance with such provisions may be waived by the Secretary in cases or classes of cases where laborers or mechanics, not otherwise employed at any time on the project, voluntarily donate their services without compensation for the purpose of lowering the costs of construction and the Secretary determines that any amounts thereby saved are fully credited to the nonprofit corporation, association, or other organization undertaking the construction; and each laborer or mechanic employed on any facility covered by a mortgage insured under section 242 shall receive compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times his basic rate of pay for all hours worked in any workweek in excess of eight hours in any workday or forty hours in the workweek, as the case may be. The provisions of this section shall also apply to the insurance of any mortgage under title XI; and each laborer or mechanic employed on any facility covered by a mortgage insured under such title shall receive compensation at a rate not less than one and one-half times his basic rate of pay for all hours worked in any workweek in excess of eight hours in any workday or forty hours in the workweek, as the case may be.

(b) The Secretary is authorized to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

(c) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, and for each fiscal year thereafter, a sum sufficient to meet all necessary expenses of the Department of Labor in making the determinations provided for in subsection (a).

COOPERATIVE HOUSING INSURANCE

SEC. 213. [12 U.S.C. 1715e] (a) In addition to mortgages insured under section 207 of this title, the Secretary is authorized to insure mortgages as defined in section 207(a) of this title (including advances on such mortgages during construction), which cover property held by—

(1) a nonprofit cooperative ownership housing corporation or nonprofit cooperative ownership housing trust, the permanent occupancy of the dwelling of which is restricted to members of such corporation or to beneficiaries of such trust;

(2) a nonprofit corporation or nonprofit trust organized for the purpose of construction of homes for members of the corporation or for beneficiaries of the trust; or

(3) a mortgagor, approved by the Secretary, which (A) has certified to the Secretary, as a condition of obtaining the insurance of a mortgage under this section, that upon completion of the property or project covered by such mortgage it intends to sell such property or project to a nonprofit corporation or nonprofit trust of the character described in paragraph (1) of this subsection at the actual cost of such property or project as certified pursuant to section 227 of this Act and will faithfully and diligently make and carry out all reasonable efforts to consummate such sale, and (B) shall be regulated or restricted by the Secretary as to rents, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operation during any period while it holds the mortgaged property or project; and for such purpose the Secretary may make such contracts with, and acquire for not to exceed \$100 such stock or interest in, any such mortgagor as the Secretary may deem necessary to render effective such restriction or regulation, such stock or interest to be paid for out of the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund and to be redeemed by such mortgagor at par upon the sale of such property or project to such nonprofit corporation or nonprofit trust;

which corporations or trusts referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection are regulated or restricted for the purposes and in the manner provided in paragraphs numbered (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of section 207 of this title; *Provided*, That as applied to mortgages the mortgage insurance for which is the obligation of the Management Fund, the reference to the General Insurance Fund in section 207(b)(2) shall be construed to refer to the Management Fund. Nothing in this section may be construed to prevent membership in a nonprofit housing cooperative from being held in the name of a trust, the beneficiary of which shall occupy the dwelling unit in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

(b) To be eligible for insurance under this section a mortgage on any property or project of a corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph numbered (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall involve a principal obligation in an amount—

[(1) **Repealed.**]

(2)(A) not to exceed, for such part of the property or project as may be attributable to dwelling use (excluding exterior land improvements as defined by the Secretary), \$41,207 per family unit without a bedroom, \$47,511 per family unit with one bedroom, \$57,300 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$73,343 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$81,708 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, and not to exceed 98 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed physical improvements are completed: *Provided*, That as to projects to consist of elevator-type structures the Secretary may, in his discretion, increase the dollar amount limitations per family unit to not to exceed \$43,875 per family unit without a bedroom, \$49,710 per family unit with one bedroom, \$60,446 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$78,197 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$85,836 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, as the case may be, to compensate for the higher cost incident to the construction of elevator-type structures of sound standards of construction and design; (B)(i) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the dollar amount limitations in subparagraph (A) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis, but in no case may any such increase exceed 90 percent where the Secretary determines that a mortgage purchased or to be purchased by the Government National Mortgage Association in implementing its special assistance functions under section 305 of this Act (as such section existed immediately before November 30, 1983) is involved; and (ii) in the case of a mortgagor of the character described in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) the mortgage shall involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed physical improvements are completed; and (iii) upon the sale of a property or project by a mortgagor of the character described in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) to a nonprofit cooperative ownership housing corporation or trust within two years after the completion of such property or project the mortgage given to finance such sale shall involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount computed in accordance with this subparagraph (B)(i)..⁴²

(c) To be eligible for insurance under this section a mortgage on any property or project of a corporation or trust of the character

⁴²Punctuation so in law.

described in paragraph numbered (2) of subsection (a) of this section shall involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed a sum computed on the basis of a separate mortgage for each single-family dwelling (irrespective of whether such dwelling has a party wall or is otherwise physically connected with another dwelling or dwellings) comprising the property or project, equal to the total of each of the maximum principal obligations of such mortgages which would meet the requirements of section 203(b)(2) if the mortgagor were the owner and occupant who had made any required payment on account of the property prescribed in such paragraph.

(d) Any mortgage insured under this section shall provide for complete amortization by periodic payments within such term as the Secretary may prescribe but not to exceed 40 years from the beginning of amortization of the mortgage, and shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee. The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and the mortgage may provide for such release, and a mortgage on any project of a corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph numbered (2) of subsection (a) of this section may provide that, at any time after the completion of the construction of the project, such mortgage may be replaced, in whole or in part, by individual mortgages covering each individual dwelling in the project in amounts not to exceed the unpaid balance of the blanket mortgage allocable to the individual property. Each such individual mortgage may be insured under this section. Property covered by a mortgage, insured under this section, on a property or project of a corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph numbered (1) of subsection (a) of this section may include five or more family units and may include such commercial and community facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants. Property held by a corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph numbered (2) of subsection (a) of this section which is covered by a mortgage insured under this section may include such community facilities, and property held by a mortgagor of the character described in paragraph numbered (3) of subsection (a) of this section which is covered by a mortgage insured under this section may include such commercial and community facilities, as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants.

(e) The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), and (n) of section 207 of this title shall be applicable to mortgages insured under this section except individual mortgages insured pursuant to subsection (d) of this section covering the individual dwellings in the project, and as to such individual mortgages the provisions of subsections (a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), and (k) of section 204 shall be applicable: *Provided*, That as applied to mortgages or loans the insurance for which is the obligation of the Management Fund (1) all references to the General Insurance Fund shall be construed to refer to the Management Fund, and (2) all references to section 207 shall be construed to refer to subsections (a)(1), (a)(3) (if the project involved is acquired by a cooperative corporation), (i) and (j) of this section.

(f) The Secretary is authorized, with respect to mortgages insured or to be insured under this section, to furnish technical advice and assistance in the organization of corporations or trusts of the character described in subsection (a) of this section and in the planning, development, construction, and operation of their housing projects.

(g) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the insurance of a mortgage under this section covering a housing project designed for occupancy by single persons, and dwelling units in such a project shall constitute family units within the meaning of this section.

(h) In the event that a mortgagor of the character described in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) obtains an insured mortgage loan pursuant to this section and fails to sell the property or project covered by such mortgage to a nonprofit housing corporation or nonprofit housing trust of the character described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) hereof, the Secretary is authorized to refuse, for such a period of time as he shall deem appropriate under the circumstances, to insure under this section any additional investor-sponsored type mortgage loans made to such mortgagor or to any other investor-sponsored mortgagor where, in the determination of the Secretary, any of its stockholders were identified with such mortgagor.

(i) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the insurance of a mortgage executed by a mortgagor of the character described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of this section covering property upon which dwelling units and related facilities have been constructed prior to the filing of the application for mortgage insurance hereunder: *Provided*, That the Secretary determines that the consumer interest is protected and that the mortgagor will be a consumer cooperative. In the case of properties other than new construction, the limitations in this section upon the amount of the mortgage shall be based upon the appraised value of the property for continued use as a cooperative rather than upon the Secretary's estimate of the replacement cost. As to any project on which construction was commenced after the effective date of this subsection, the mortgage on such project shall be eligible for insurance under this section only in those cases where the construction was subject to inspection by the Secretary and where there was compliance with the provisions of section 212 of this title. As to any project on which construction was commenced prior to the effective date of this subsection, such inspection, and compliance with the provisions of section 212 of this title, shall not be a prerequisite.

(j)(1) With respect to any property covered by a mortgage insured under this section (or any cooperative housing project covered by a mortgage insured under section 207 as in effect prior to the enactment of the Housing Act of 1950), the Secretary is authorized upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to make commitments to insure and to insure supplementary cooperative loans (including advances during construction or improvement) made by financial institutions approved by the Secretary. The Secretary is further authorized to make commitments to insure and to insure supplementary cooperative loans (including advances during construction or improvement) with respect to any property pur-

chased from the Federal Government by a nonprofit corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a), if the property is covered by an uninsured mortgage representing a part of the purchase price. As used in this subsection “supplementary cooperative loan” means a loan, advance of credit, or purchase of an obligation representing a loan or advance of credit made for the purpose of financing any of the following:

(A) Improvements or repairs of the property covered by such mortgage;⁴³

(B) Community facilities necessary to serve the occupants of the property; or⁴⁴

(C) Cooperative purchases and resales of memberships in order to provide necessary refinancing for resales of memberships which involve increases in equity; but in such resales by the cooperative the downpayments by the new members shall not be less than those made on the original sales of such memberships.

(2) To be eligible for insurance under this subsection, a supplementary cooperative loan shall—

(A) be limited to an amount which, when added to the outstanding mortgage indebtedness on the property, creates a total outstanding indebtedness which does not exceed the original principal obligation of the mortgage; except that, in the case of improvements or additional community facilities, the outstanding indebtedness may be increased by an amount equal to 97 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the value of such improvements or facilities, and the new outstanding indebtedness may exceed the original principal obligation of the mortgage if such new outstanding indebtedness does not exceed the limitations imposed by subsection (b);

(B) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary but not to exceed the remaining term of the mortgage; except that, in the case of repairs or improvements to a property covered by an uninsured mortgage dated more than twenty years prior to the date of the commitment to insure, of such magnitude that the Secretary deems them to be a major rehabilitation or modernization of such property, the loan may have a maturity date up to ten years in excess of the remaining term of the uninsured mortgage;

(C) be secured in such manner as the Secretary may require;

(D) contain such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary may prescribe; and

(E) represent the obligation of a borrower of the character described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a).

(k) There is hereby created a Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund (hereinafter referred to as the “Management Fund”). The Management Fund shall be used by the Secretary as a revolving fund for carrying out the provisions of this section with respect to mortgages or loans insured, on or after the date of the

⁴³ So in law.

⁴⁴ So in law.

enactment of this subsection, under subsections (a)(1), (a)(3) (if the project is acquired by a cooperative corporation, (i) and (j). The Management Fund shall also be used as a revolving fund for mortgages, loans, and commitments transferred to it pursuant to subsection (m). The Secretary is directed to transfer to the Management Fund from the General Insurance Fund an amount equal to the total of the premium payments theretofore made with respect to the insurance of mortgages and loans transferred to the Management Fund pursuant to subsection (m) minus the total of any administrative expenses theretofore incurred in connection with such mortgages and loans, plus such other amounts as the Secretary determines to be necessary and appropriate. General expenses of operation of the Department of Housing and Urban Development relating to mortgages or loans which are the obligation of the Management Fund may be charged to the Management Fund.

(l) The Secretary shall establish in the Management Fund, as of the date of the enactment of this subsection, a General Surplus Account and a Participating Reserve Account. The aggregate net income thereafter received or any net loss thereafter sustained by the Management Fund, in any semiannual period, shall be credited or charged to the General Surplus Account or the Participating Reserve Account or both in such manner and amounts as the Secretary may determine to be in accord with sound actuarial and accounting practice. Upon termination of the insurance obligation of the Management Fund by payment of any mortgage or loan insured under this section, and at such time or times prior to such termination as the Secretary may determine, the Secretary is authorized to distribute to the mortgagor or borrower a share of the Participating Reserve Account in such manner and amount as the Secretary shall determine to be equitable and in accordance with sound actuarial and accounting practice: *Provided*, That in no event shall the amount of the distributable share exceed the aggregate scheduled annual premiums of the mortgagor or borrower to the year of payment of the share less the total amount of any share or shares previously distributed by the Secretary to the mortgagor or borrower: *And provided further*, That in no event may a distributable share be distributed until any funds transferred from the General Insurance Fund to the Management Fund pursuant to subsection (o) have been repaid in full to the General Insurance Fund. No mortgagor, mortgagee, borrower, or lender shall have any vested right in a credit balance in any such account or be subject to any liability arising out of the mutuality of the Management Fund. The determination of the Secretary as to the amount to be paid by him to any mortgagor or borrower shall be final and conclusive.

(m) The Secretary is authorized to transfer to the Management Fund commitments for insurance issued under subsection (a)(1), (i), and (j) prior to the date of enactment of this subsection, and to transfer to the Management Fund the insurance of any mortgage or loan insured prior to the date of the enactment of this subsection under subsection (a)(1), (a)(3) (if the project is acquired by a cooperative corporation), (i), or (j): *Provided*, That the insurance of any mortgage or loan shall not be transferred under the provisions of this subsection if on the date of the enactment of this subsection

the mortgage or loan is in default and the mortgagee or lender has notified the Secretary in writing of its intention to file an insurance claim. Any insurance or commitment not so transferred shall continue to be an obligation of the General Insurance Fund.

(n) Notwithstanding the limitations contained in other provisions of this Act, premium charges for mortgages or loans the insurance of which is the obligation of either the Management Fund or the General Insurance Fund may be payable in debentures issued in connection with mortgages or loans transferred to the Management Fund or in connection with mortgages or loans insured pursuant to commitments transferred to the Management Fund, as provided in subsection (m) of this section. Premium charges on the insurance of mortgages or loans transferred to the Management Fund or insured pursuant to commitments transferred to the Management Fund may be payable in debentures which are the obligation of either the Management Fund or the General Insurance Fund.

(o) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary is authorized to transfer funds between the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund and the General Insurance Fund in such amounts and at such times as he may determine, taking into consideration the requirements of each such Fund, to assist in carrying out effectively the insurance programs for which such Funds were respectively established. Moneys in the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund not needed for current operations of the fund shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States to the credit of the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund or invested in bonds or other obligations of, or in bonds or other obligations guaranteed as to a principal and interest by, the United States or any agency of the United States: *Provided*, That such moneys shall to the maximum extent feasible be invested in such bonds or other obligations the proceeds of which will be used to directly support the residential mortgage market. The Secretary may with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, purchase in the open market debentures which are the obligations of the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund. Such purchases shall be made at a price which will provide an investment yield of not less than the yield obtainable from other investments authorized by this subsection. Debentures so purchased shall be canceled and not reissued.

(p) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the project mortgage amounts which may be insured under this section may be increased by up to 20 per centum if such increase is necessary to account for the increased cost of the project due to the installation therein of a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11) (A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95-619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure.

INSURANCE OF MORTGAGES ON PROPERTY IN ALASKA, GUAM, HAWAII,
AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

SEC. 214. [12 U.S.C. 1715d] If the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development finds that, because of higher costs prevailing in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, or the Virgin Islands, it is not feasible to construct dwellings or mobile home courts or parks on property located in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, or the Virgin Islands without sacrifice of sound standards of construction, design or livability, within the limitations as to maximum or maxima mortgage amounts provided in this Act, the Secretary may, by regulations or otherwise, prescribe, with respect to dollar amount, a higher maximum or maxima for the principal obligation of mortgages insured under this Act covering property located in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii or the Virgin Islands in such amounts as he shall find necessary to compensate for such higher costs but not to exceed, in any event, the maximum or maxima otherwise applicable (including increased mortgage amounts in geographical areas where cost levels so require) by more than one-half thereof. No mortgage with respect to a project or property in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, or the Virgin Islands shall be accepted for insurance under this Act unless the Secretary finds that the project or property is an acceptable risk, giving consideration to the acute housing shortage in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, or the Virgin Islands: *Provided*, That any such mortgage may be insured or accepted for insurance without regard to any requirement in any other section of this Act that the Secretary finds the project or property to be economically sound or an acceptable risk. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Act or any other law, the Alaska Housing Authority or the Government of Guam, the Virgin Islands, or Hawaii or any agency or instrumentality thereof shall be eligible as mortgagor or mortgagee, as the case may be, for any of the purposes of mortgage insurance under the provisions of this Act. Upon application by the mortgagee (1) where the mortgagor is regulated or restricted pursuant to the last sentence of this section or (2) where the Alaska Housing Authority or the Government of Guam, the Virgin Islands, or Hawaii or any agency or instrumentality thereof is the mortgagor or mortgagee, for the insurance of a mortgage under any provisions of this Act, the Secretary is authorized to insure the mortgage (including advances thereon where otherwise authorized), and to make commitments for the insuring of any such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon, under such provisions (and this section) without regard to any requirement that the mortgagor shall have paid a prescribed amount on account of such property. Without limiting the authority of the Secretary under any other provision of law, the Secretary is hereby authorized, with respect to any mortgagor in such case (except where the Alaska Housing Authority is the mortgagor or mortgagee) to require the mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to rents or sales, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operation to such an extent and in such manner as the Secretary determines advisable to provide reasonable rentals and sales prices and a reasonable return on the investment.

ISSUANCE OF COMMITMENTS

SEC. 215. [12 U.S.C. 1715f] The Secretary is hereby authorized to process applications and issue commitments with respect to insurance of mortgages under section 8 of title I, title II, title VI, title VIII, or title IX of this Act, even though the permanent mortgage financing may not be insured under this Act, and in the event the mortgage is not so insured the Secretary is authorized to charge an additional application fee determined by him to be reasonable. The Secretary is authorized to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

WAIVER OF OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICEMEN

SEC. 216. [12 U.S.C. 1715g] The Secretary is hereby authorized to insure any mortgage otherwise eligible for insurance under any of the provisions of this Act without regard to any requirement with respect to the occupancy of the mortgagor of the property at the time of insurance, where the Secretary is satisfied that the inability of the mortgagor to meet such requirement is by reason of his entry on active duty in a uniformed service subsequent to the filing of an application for insurance and the mortgagor expresses an intent to meet such requirement upon his release from active duty.

[GENERAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE AUTHORIZATION]

[SEC. 217. [Repealed.]]

[CREDIT FOR APPLICATION FEES PAID]

[SEC. 218. [Repealed.]]

[AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER AMOUNTS AMONG FUNDS]

[SEC. 219. [Repealed.]]

REHABILITATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION HOUSING
INSURANCE

SEC. 220. [12 U.S.C. 1715k] (a) The purpose of this section is to aid in the elimination of slums and blighted conditions and the prevention of the deterioration of residential property by supplementing the insurance of mortgages under sections 203 and 207 of this title with a system of loan and mortgage insurance designed to assist the financing required for the rehabilitation of existing dwelling accommodations and the construction of new dwelling accommodations where such dwelling accommodations are located in an area referred to in paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of the section.

(b) The Secretary is authorized, upon application by the mortgagee, to insure, as hereinafter provided, any mortgage (including advances during construction on mortgages covering property of the character described in paragraph (3)(B) of subsection (d) of this section) which is eligible for insurance as hereinafter provided, and, upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to make com-

mitments for the insurance of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon.

(c) As used in this section, the terms “mortgage,” “first mortgage,” “mortgagee,” “mortgagor,” “maturity date,” and “State” shall have the same meaning as in section 201 of this Act.

(d) To be eligible for insurance under this section a mortgage shall meet the following conditions:

(1) The mortgaged property shall—

(A) be located in (i) the area of a slum clearance and urban redevelopment project covered by a Federal-aid contract executed or a prior approval granted, pursuant to title I of the Housing Act of 1949 before the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954, or (ii) an urban renewal area (as defined in title I of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended) or (iii) the area of an urban renewal project assisted under section 111 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, or (iv) an area in which a program of concentrated code enforcement activities is being carried out pursuant to section 117 of the Housing Act of 1949, or (v) an area designated by the Secretary, where concentrated housing, physical development, and public service activities are being or will be carried out in a coordinated manner, pursuant to a locally developed strategy for neighborhood improvement, conservation or preservation: *Provided*, That, in the case of an area within the purview of clause (i) or (ii) of this subparagraph, a redevelopment plan or an urban renewal plan (as defined in title I of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended), as the case may be, has been approved for such area by the governing body of the locality involved and by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary has determined that such plan conforms to a general plan for the locality as a whole and that there exist the necessary authority and financial capacity to assure the completion of such redevelopment or urban renewal plan: *And provided further*, That, in the case of an area within the purview of clause (iii) of this subparagraph, an urban renewal plan (as required for projects assisted under such section 111) has been approved for such area by such governing body and by the Secretary, and the Secretary has determined that such plan conforms to definite local objectives respecting appropriate land uses, improved traffic, public transportation, public utilities, recreational and community facilities, and other public improvements, and that there exist the necessary authority and financial capacity to assure the completion of such urban renewal plan, and

(B) meet such standards and conditions as the Secretary shall prescribe to establish the acceptability of such property for mortgage insurance under this section.

(2) The mortgaged property shall be held by—

(A) a mortgagor approved by the Secretary, and the Secretary may in his discretion require such mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to rents or sales, charges, capital structure, rate of return and methods of operation, and for such purpose the Secretary may make such contracts with and acquire for not to exceed \$100 stock or interest in any such mortgagor as the Secretary may deem necessary to render effective

such restriction or regulations. Such stock or interest shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance; or

(B) by Federal or State instrumentalities, municipal corporate instrumentalities of one or more States, or limited dividend or redevelopment or housing corporations or other legal entities restricted by or under Federal or State laws or regulations of State banking or insurance departments as to rents, charges, capital structure, rate of return, or methods of operation.

(3) The mortgage shall—

(A)(i) involve a principal obligation (including such initial service charges, appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in an amount not to exceed the applicable maximum principal obligation which may be insured in the area under section 203(b); or in the case of a dwelling designed principally for residential use for more than four families (but not exceeding such additional number of family units as the Secretary may prescribe) the applicable maximum principal obligation secured by a four-family residence which may be insured in the area under section 203(b) plus not to exceed \$9,165 for each additional family unit in excess of four located on such property; and not to exceed an amount equal to the sum to (1) 97 per centum (but, in any case where the dwelling is not approved for mortgage insurance prior to the beginning of construction, unless the construction of the dwelling was completed more than one year prior to the application for mortgage insurance, 90 per centum) of \$25,000 of the Secretary's estimate of replacement cost of the property, as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance, and (2) 95 per centum of such value in excess of \$25,000: *Provided*, That in the case of properties other than new construction, the foregoing limitations upon the amount of the mortgage shall be based upon the sum of the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the Secretary's estimate of the value of the property before repair and rehabilitation rather than upon the Secretary's estimate of the replacement cost: *Provided further*, That if the mortgagor is a veteran and the mortgage to be insured under this section covers property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a one-family residence, the principal obligation may be in an amount equal to the sum of (1) 100 per centum of \$25,000 of the Secretary's estimate of replacement cost of the property, as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance and (2) 95 per centum of such value in excess of \$25,000. As used herein, the term "veteran" means any person who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for a period of not less than ninety days (or as certified by the Secretary of Defense as having performed extrahazardous service), and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable, except that persons enlisting in the armed forces after September 7, 1980, or entering active duty after October 16, 1981, shall have

their eligibility determined in accordance with section 3103A(d) of title 38, United States Code; and

(ii) in no case involving refinancing have a principal obligation in an amount exceeding the sum of the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the amount (as determined by the Secretary) required to refinance existing indebtedness secured by the property or project, plus any existing indebtedness incurred in connection with improving, repairing, or rehabilitating the property; or

(B) ~~[(i) [Repealed.]]~~

(ii) not exceed 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed improvements are completed (the replacement cost of the property or project may include the land, the proposed physical improvements, utilities within the boundaries of the property or project, architect's fees, taxes, and interest during construction, and other miscellaneous charges incident to construction and approved by the Secretary, and shall include an allowance for builder's and sponsor's profit and risk of 10 per centum of all of the foregoing items except the land unless the Secretary, after certification that such allowance is unreasonable shall by regulation prescribe a lesser percentage): *Provided*, That in the case of properties other than new construction, the foregoing limitations upon the amount of the mortgage shall be based upon the sum of the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the Secretary's estimate of the value of the property before repair and rehabilitation rather than upon the Secretary's estimate of the replacement cost: *Provided further*, That the mortgage may involve the financing of the purchase of property which has been rehabilitated by a local public agency with Federal assistance pursuant to section 110(c)(8) of the Housing Act of 1949, and, in such case the foregoing limitations upon the amount of the mortgage shall be based upon the appraised value of the property as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance;

(iii)(I) not to exceed, for such part of the property or project as may be attributable to dwelling use (excluding exterior land improvements as defined by the Secretary), \$38,025 per family unit without a bedroom, \$42,120 per family unit with one bedroom, \$50,310 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$62,010 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$70,200 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, except that as to projects to consist of elevator-type structures the Secretary may, in his discretion, increase the dollar amount limitations per family unit to not to exceed \$43,875 per family unit without a bedroom, \$49,140 per family unit with one bedroom, \$60,255 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$75,465 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$85,328 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, as the case may be, to compensate for the higher costs incident to the construction of elevator-type structures of sound standards of construction and design; and (II) with respect to rehabilitation projects involving not more than five family units, the Secretary may by regulation increase by 25 per centum any of the dollar amount limitations in subparagraph

(B)(iii)(I) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) which are applicable to units with two, three, or four or more bedrooms; (III) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase the dollar amount limitations contained in subparagraph (B)(iii)(I) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis, but in no case may any such increase exceed 90 percent where the Secretary determines that a mortgage purchased or to be purchased by the Government National Mortgage Association in implementing its special assistance functions under section 305 of this Act (as such section existed immediately before November 30, 1983) is involved; (IV) That⁴⁴ nothing contained in this subparagraph (B)(iii)(I) shall preclude the insurance of mortgages covering existing multifamily dwellings to be rehabilitated or reconstructed for the purposes set forth in subsection (a) of this section; (V) the Secretary may further increase any of the dollar limitations which would otherwise apply to such projects by not to exceed 20 per centum if such increase is necessary to account for the increased cost of the project due to the installation therein of a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11)(A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95-619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure; and

(iv) include such nondwelling facilities as the Secretary deems desirable and consistent with the urban renewal plan or, where appropriate with the locally developed strategy for neighborhood improvement, conservation or preservation: *Provided*, That the project shall be predominantly residential and any nondwelling facility included in the mortgage shall be found by the Secretary to contribute to the economic feasibility of the project, and the Secretary shall give due consideration to the possible effect of the project on other business enterprises in the community.

(4) The mortgage shall provide for complete amortization by periodic payments (unless otherwise approved by the Secretary)⁴⁵ within such terms as the Secretary may prescribe, but as to mortgages coming within the provisions of paragraph (3)(A) of this subsection (d) not to exceed the maximum maturity prescribed by the provisions of section 203(b)(3). The mortgage shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mort-

⁴⁴Section 446 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983, Pub. L. 98-181, approved November 30, 1983, added this parenthetical in sections 207(c)(3), 220(d)(4), 221(d)(6), and 231(c)(5) of the National Housing Act. Subsection (f) of such section (12 U.S.C. 1713 note) further provides as follows:

“(f) The aggregate number of dwelling units included in properties covered by mortgages insured pursuant to the authority granted in the amendments made by this section in any fiscal year may not exceed 10,000.”.

gagee and contain such terms and provisions with respect to the application of the mortgagor's periodic payment to amortization of the principal of the mortgage, insurance, repairs, alterations, payment of taxes, default reserves, delinquency charges, foreclosure proceedings, anticipation of maturity, additional and secondary liens, and other matters as the Secretary may in the Secretary's discretion prescribe.

(e) The Secretary may at any time, under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, consent to the release of the mortgagor from his liability under the mortgage or the credit instrument secured thereby, or consent to the release of parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage.

(f) The mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as hereinafter provided—

(1) as to mortgages meeting the requirements of paragraph (3)(A) of subsection (d) of this section, as provided in section 204(a) of this Act with respect to mortgages insured under section 203; and the provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (k) of section 204 of this Act shall be applicable to such mortgages insured under this section, except that all references therein to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund or the Fund shall be construed to refer to the General Insurance Fund and all references therein to section 203 shall be construed to refer to this section;

(2) as to mortgages meeting the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) of subsection (d) of this section, as provided in section 207(g) of this Act with respect to mortgages insured under said section 207, and the provisions of subsections (h), (i), (j), (k), and (l) of section 207 of this Act shall be applicable to such mortgages insured under this section, and all references therein to the Housing Insurance Fund or the Housing Fund shall be construed to refer to the General Insurance Fund; or

(3) as to mortgages meeting the requirements of this section that are insured or initially endorsed for insurance on or after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1961, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, the Secretary in his discretion, in accordance with such regulations as he may prescribe, may make payments pursuant to such paragraphs in cash or in debentures (as provided in the mortgage insurance contract), or may acquire a mortgage loan that is in default and the security therefor upon payment to the mortgagee in cash or in debentures (as provided in the mortgage insurance contract) of a total amount equal to the unpaid principal balance of the loan plus any accrued interest and any advances approved by the Secretary and made previously by the mortgagee under the provisions of the mortgage. After the acquisition of the mortgage by the Secretary the mortgagee shall have no further rights, liabilities, or obligations with respect to the loan or the security for the loan. The appropriate provisions of sections 204 and 207 relating to the rights, liabilities, and obligations of a mortgagee shall apply with respect to the Secretary when he has acquired an insured mortgage under this paragraph, in accordance with and subject to regulations (modifying such provisions to the ex-

tent necessary to render their application for such purposes appropriate and effective) which shall be prescribed by the Secretary, except that as applied to mortgages so acquired (A) all references in section 204 to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund or the Fund shall be construed to refer to the General Insurance Fund, and (B) all references in section 204 to section 203 shall be construed to refer to this section. If the insurance payment is made in cash, there shall be added to such payment an amount equivalent to the interest which the debentures would have earned, computed to a date to be established pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary.

[(g) **Repealed.**]

(h)(1) To assist further in the conservation, improvement, repair, and rehabilitation of property located in the area of an urban renewal project, or in an area in which a program of concentrated code enforcement activities is being carried out pursuant to section 117 of the Housing Act of 1949, as provided in paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of this section, the Secretary is authorized upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe to make commitments to insure and to insure home improvement loans (including advances during construction or improvement) made by financial institutions on and after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1961.⁴⁶ As used in this subsection—

(A) the term “home improvement loan” means a loan, advance of credit, or purchase of an obligation representing a loan or advance of credit made—

(i) for the purpose of financing the improvement of an existing structure (or in connection with an existing structure) which was constructed not less than ten years prior to the making of such loan, advance of credit, or purchase, and which is used or will be used primarily for residential purposes: *Provided*, That a home improvement loan shall include a loan, advance, or purchase with respect to the improvement of a structure which was constructed less than ten years prior to the making of such loan, advance, or purchase if the proceeds are or will be used primarily for major structural improvements, or to correct defects which were not known at the time of the completion of the structure or which were caused by fire, flood, windstorm, or other casualty; or

(ii) for the purpose of enabling the borrower to pay that part of the cost of the construction or installation of sidewalks, curbs, gutters, street paving, street lights, sewers, or other public improvements, adjacent to or in the vicinity of property owned by him and used primarily for residential purposes, which is assessed against him or for which he is otherwise legally liable as the owner of such property;

(B) the term “improvement” means conservation, repair, restoration, rehabilitation, conversion, alteration, enlargement, or remodeling; and

⁴⁶ June 30, 1961.

(C) the term “financial institution” means a lender approved by the Secretary as eligible for insurance under section 2 or a mortgagee approved under section 203(b)(1).

(2) To be eligible for insurance under this subsection, a home improvement loan shall—

(i)⁴⁷ not exceed the Secretary’s estimate of the cost of improvement, or \$12,000 per family unit, whichever is the lesser, and be limited as required by paragraph (11): *Provided*, That the Secretary may, by regulation, increase such amount by not to exceed 45 per centum in any geographical area where he finds that cost levels so require;

(ii)⁴⁸ be limited to an amount which when added to any outstanding indebtedness related to the property (as determined by the Secretary) creates a total outstanding indebtedness which does not exceed the limits provided in subsection (d)(3) for properties (of the same type) other than new construction;

(iii)⁴⁹ bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee;

(iv)⁵⁰ have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary, but not to exceed twenty years from the beginning of amortization of the loan;

(v)⁵¹ comply with such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary may prescribe; and

(vi)⁵² represent the obligation of a borrower who is the owner of the property improved, or a lessee of the property under a lease for not less than 99 years which is renewable or under a lease having an expiration date in excess of 10 years later than the maturity date of the loan.

(3) Any home improvement loan insured under this subsection may be refinanced and extended in accordance with such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, but in no event for an additional amount or terms in excess of the maximum provided for in this subsection.

[(4) [Repealed.]]

(5) The Secretary is authorized to fix a premium charge for the insurance of home improvement loans under this subsection but in the case of any such loan such charge shall not be less than an amount equivalent to one-half of 1 per centum per annum nor more than an amount equivalent to 1 per centum per annum of the amount of the principal obligation of the loan outstanding at any time, without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments. Such premium charges shall be payable by the financial institution either in cash or in debentures (at par plus accrued interest) issued by the Secretary as obligations of the General Insurance Fund, in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary, and the Secretary may require the payment of one or more such pre-

⁴⁷ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (A).

⁴⁸ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (B).

⁴⁹ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (C).

⁵⁰ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (D).

⁵¹ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (E).

⁵² So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (F).

mium charges at the time the loan is insured, at such discount rate as he may prescribe not in excess of the interest rate specified in the loan. If the Secretary finds upon presentation of a loan for insurance and the tender of the initial premium charge or charges so required that the loan complies with the provisions of this subsection, such loan may be accepted for insurance by endorsement or otherwise as the Secretary may prescribe. In the event the principal obligation of any loan accepted for insurance under this subsection is paid in full prior to the maturity date, the Secretary is authorized to refund to the financial institution for the account of the borrower all, or such portions as he shall determine to be equitable, of the current unearned premium charges theretofore paid.

(6) In cases of defaults on loans insured under this subsection, upon receiving notice of default, the Secretary, in accordance with such regulations as he may prescribe, may acquire the loan and any security therefor upon payment to the financial institution in cash or in debentures (as provided in the loan insurance contract) of a total amount equal to the unpaid principal balance of the loan, plus any accrued interest, any advances approved by the Secretary made previously by the financial institution under the provisions of the loan instruments, and reimbursement for such collection costs, court costs, and attorney fees as may be approved by the Secretary. If the insurance payment is made in cash, there shall be added to such payment an amount equivalent to the interest which the debentures would have earned, computed to a date to be established pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary.

(7) Debentures issued under this subsection shall be executed in the name of the General Insurance Fund as obligor, shall be negotiable, and, if in book entry form, transferable, in the manner described by the Secretary in regulations, and shall be dated as of the date the loan is assigned to the Secretary and shall bear interest from that date. They shall bear interest at a rate, established by the Secretary pursuant to section 224, payable semiannually on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July of each year, and shall mature ten years after their date of issuance. They shall be exempt from taxation as provided in section 207(i) with respect to debentures issued under that section. They shall be paid out of the General Insurance Fund which shall be primarily liable therefor and they shall be fully and unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, and, in the case of debentures issued in certificated registered form, the guaranty shall be expressed on the face of the debentures. In the event the General Insurance Fund fails to pay upon demand, when due, the principal of or interest on any debentures so guaranteed, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay the holders the amount thereof which is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and thereupon, to the extent of the amount so paid, the Secretary of the Treasury shall succeed to all the rights of the holders of such debentures. Debentures issued under this subsection shall be in such form and amounts; shall be subject to such terms and conditions; and shall include such provisions for redemption, if any, as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; and may be in book entry or certificated registered

form, or such other form as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may prescribe in regulations.

(8) The provisions of subsections (c), (d), and (h) of section 2 shall apply to home improvement loans insured under this subsection and for the purposes of this subsection references in subsections (c), (d), and (h) of section 2 to “this section” or “this title” shall be construed to refer to this subsection.

(9)(A) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, no home improvement loan executed in connection with the improvement of a structure for use as rental accommodations for five or more families shall be insured under this subsection unless the borrower has agreed (i) to certify, upon completion of the improvement and prior to final endorsement of the loan, either that the actual cost of improvement equaled or exceeded the proceeds of the home improvement loan, or the amount by which the proceeds of the loan exceed the actual cost, as the case may be, and (ii) to pay forthwith to the financial institution, for application to the reduction of the principal of the loan, the amount, if any, certified to be in excess of the actual cost of improvement. Upon the Secretary’s approval of the borrower’s certification as required under this paragraph, the certification shall be final and incontestable, except for fraud or material misrepresentation on the part of the borrower.

(B) As used in subparagraph (A), the term “actual cost” means the cost to the borrower of the improvement, including the amounts paid for labor, materials, construction contracts, off-site public utilities, streets, organization and legal expenses, such allocations of general overhead items as are acceptable to the Secretary, and other items of expense approved by the Secretary, plus a reasonable allowance for builder’s profit if the borrower is also the builder, as defined by the Secretary, and excluding the amount of any kickbacks, rebates, or trade discounts received in connection with the improvement.

(10) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, the Secretary is authorized and empowered (i) to make expenditures and advances out of funds made available by this Act to preserve and protect his interest in any security for, or the lien or priority of the lien securing, any loan or other indebtedness owing to, insured by, or acquired by the Secretary or by the United States under this subsection, or section 2 or 203(k); and (ii) to bid for and to purchase at any foreclosure or other sale or otherwise acquire property pledged, mortgaged, conveyed, attached, or levied upon to secure the payment of any loan or other indebtedness owing to or acquired by the Secretary or by the United States under this subsection or section 2 or 203(k). The authority conferred by this paragraph may be exercised as provided in the last sentence of section 204(g).

(11) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no home improvement loan made in whole or in part for the purpose specified in clause (A)(ii) of the second sentence of paragraph (1) shall be insured under this subsection if such loan (or the portion thereof which is attributable to such purpose), when added to the aggregate principal balance of any outstanding loans insured under this subsection or section 203(k) which were made to the same borrower for the purpose so specified (or the portion of such aggregate balance which is attributable to such purpose), would exceed \$10,000

or such additional amount as the Secretary has by regulation prescribed in any geographical area where he finds cost levels so required pursuant to the authority vested in him by the proviso in paragraph (2)(i) of this subsection. [12 U.S.C. 1715k]

HOUSING FOR MODERATE INCOME AND DISPLACED FAMILIES

SEC. 221. [12 U.S.C. 1715l] (a) This section is designed to assist private industry in providing housing for low and moderate income families and displaced families.

(b) The Secretary is authorized, upon application by the mortgagee, to insure under this section as hereinafter provided any mortgage (including advances during construction on mortgages covering property of the character described in paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (d) of this section) which is eligible for insurance as provided herein and, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, to make commitments for the insurance of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon.

(c) As used in this section, the terms “mortgage”, “first mortgage”, “mortgagee”, “mortgagor”, “maturity date” and “State” shall have the same meaning as in section 201 of this Act.

(d) To be eligible for insurance under this section, a mortgage shall—

(1) have been made to and be held by a mortgagee approved by the Secretary as responsible and able to service the mortgage properly;

(2) be secured by property upon which there is located a dwelling conforming to applicable standards prescribed by the Secretary under subsection (f) of this section, and meeting the requirements of all State laws, or local ordinances or regulations relating to the public health or safety, zoning, or otherwise, which may be applicable thereto, and shall involve a principal obligation (including such initial service charges appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in an amount (A) not to exceed (i) \$31,000 (or \$36,000, if the mortgagor’s family includes five or more persons) in the case of a property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a single-family residence, (ii) \$35,000 in the case of a property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a two-family residence, (iii) \$48,600 in the case of a property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a three-family residence, or (iv) \$59,400 in the case of a property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a four-family residence, except that the Secretary may increase the foregoing amounts to not to exceed \$36,000 (or \$42,000 if the mortgagor’s family includes five or more persons), \$45,000, \$57,600, and \$68,400, respectively, in any geographical area where he finds that cost levels so require; and (B) not to exceed the appraised value of the property (as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance): *Provided*, That (i)(1) in the case of a displaced family, he shall have paid on account of the property at least \$200 in the case of a single family dwelling, \$400 in the case of a two-

family dwelling, \$600 in the case of a three-family dwelling, and \$800 in the case of a four-family dwelling, or (2) in the case of any other family, he shall have paid on account of the property at least 3 per centum of the Secretary's estimate of its acquisition cost (excluding the mortgage insurance premium paid at the time the mortgage is insured), in cash or its equivalent; which amount in either instance may include amounts to cover settlement costs and initial payments for taxes, hazard insurance, and other prepaid expenses; or, (ii) in the case of repair and rehabilitation, the amount of the mortgage shall not exceed the sum of the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the Secretary's estimate of the value of the property before repair and rehabilitation, except that in no case involving refinancing shall such mortgage exceed such estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the amount (as determined by the Secretary) required to refinance existing indebtedness secured by the property: *Provided further*, That the mortgagor shall to the maximum extent feasible be given the opportunity to contribute the value of his labor as equity in such dwelling; or

(3) if executed by a mortgagor which is a public body or agency (and, except with respect to a project assisted or to be assisted pursuant to section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, which certifies that it is not receiving financial assistance from the United States exclusively pursuant to such Act), a cooperative (including an investor-sponsor who meets such requirements as the Secretary may impose to assure that the consumer interest is protected), or a limited dividend corporation (as defined by the Secretary), or a private nonprofit corporation or association, or other mortgagor approved by the Secretary, and regulated or supervised under Federal or State laws or by political subdivisions of States, or agencies thereof, or by the Secretary under a regulatory agreement or otherwise, as to rents, charges, and methods of operation, in such form and in such manner as in the opinion of the Secretary will effectuate the purposes of this section—

[(i) [Repealed.]]

(ii)(I) not exceed, for such part of the property or project as may be attributable to dwelling use (excluding exterior land improvements as defined by the Secretary), \$42,048 per family unit without a bedroom, \$48,481 per family unit with one bedroom, 58,469⁵³ per family unit with two bedrooms, \$74,840 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$83,375 per family unit with four or more bedrooms; except that as to projects to consist of elevator-type structures the Secretary may, in his discretion, increase the dollar amount limitations per family unit to not to exceed \$44,250 per family unit without a bedroom, \$50,724 per family unit with one bedroom, \$61,680 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$79,793 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$87,588 per family unit with

⁵³ So in law. There is no dollar sign.

four or more bedrooms, as the case may be, to compensate for the higher costs incident to the construction of elevator-type structures of sound standards of construction and design; (II) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the dollar amount limitations in subclause (I) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis, but in no case may any such increase exceed 90 percent where the Secretary determines that a mortgage purchased or to be purchased by the Government National Mortgage Association in implementing its special assistance functions under section 305 of this Act (as such section existed immediately before November 30, 1983) is involved; and

(iii) not exceed (1) in the case of new construction, the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed improvements are completed (the replacement cost may include the land, the proposed physical improvements, utilities within the boundaries of the land, architect's fees, taxes, incident to construction and approved by the Secretary), or (2) in the case of repair and rehabilitation, the sum of the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the Secretary's estimate of the value of the property before repair and rehabilitation: *Provided*, That the mortgage may involve the financing of the purchase of property which has been rehabilitated by a local public agency with Federal assistance pursuant to section 110(c)(8) of the Housing Act of 1949, and, in such case, the amount of the mortgage shall not exceed the appraised value of the property as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance: *Provided further*, That in the case of any mortgagor other than a nonprofit corporation or association, cooperative (including an investor-sponsor), or public body, or a mortgagor meeting the special requirements of subsection (e)(1), the amount of the mortgage shall not exceed 90 percent of the amount otherwise authorized under this section: *Provided further*, That such property or project, when constructed, or repaired and rehabilitated, shall be for use as a rental or cooperative project, and low and moderate income families or displaced families shall be eligible for occupancy in accordance with such regulations and procedures as may be prescribed by the Secretary and the Secretary may adopt such requirements as he determines to be desirable regarding consultation with local public officials where such consultation is appropriate by reason of the relationship of such project to projects under other local programs; or

(4) if executed by a mortgagor and which is approved by the Secretary—

[(i) [Repealed.]

(ii)(I) not exceed, or such part of the property or project as may be attributable to dwelling use (excluding exterior land improvements as defined by the Secretary), \$37,843 per family unit without a bedroom, \$42,954 per family unit with one bedroom, \$51,920 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$65,169 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$73,846 per family unit with four or more bedrooms; except that as to projects to consist of elevator-type structures the Secretary may, in his discretion, increase the dollar amount limitations per family unit to not to exceed \$40,876 per family unit without a bedroom, \$46,859 per family unit with one bedroom, \$56,979 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$73,710 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$80,913 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, as the case may be, to compensate for the higher costs incident to the construction of elevator-type structures of sound standards of construction and design; (II) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the dollar limitations in subclause (I) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis, but in no case may any such increase exceed 90 percent where the Secretary determines that a mortgage purchased or to be purchased by the Government National Mortgage Association in implementing its special assistance functions under section 305 of this Act (as such section existed immediately before November 30, 1983) is involved;

(iii) not exceed (in the case of a property or project approved for mortgage insurance prior to the beginning of construction) 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed improvements are completed (the replacement cost may include the land, the proposed physical improvements, utilities within the boundaries of the land, architect's fees, taxes, interest during construction, and other miscellaneous charges incident to construction and approved by the Secretary, and shall include an allowance for builder's and sponsor's profit and risk of 10 per centum of all of the foregoing items, except the land, unless the Secretary, after certification that such allowance is unreasonable, shall by regulation prescribe a lesser percentage; and

(iv) not exceed 90 per centum of the sum of the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation (including the cost of evaluating and reducing lead-based paint hazards, as such terms are defined in section 1004 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992) and the Secretary's estimate of the value of the property before repair and rehabilitation of the proceeds of the mortgage are

to be used for the repair and rehabilitation of a property or project: *Provided*, That the Secretary may, in his discretion, require the mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to rents or sales, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operation, and for such purpose the Secretary may make such contracts with and acquire for not to exceed \$100 such stock or interest in any such mortgagor as the Secretary may deem necessary to render effective such restrictions or regulations, with such stock or interest being paid for out of the General Insurance Fund and being required to be redeemed by the mortgage at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance;

(5) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee; and contain such terms and provisions with respect to the application of the mortgagor's periodic payment to amortization of the principal of the mortgage, insurance, repairs, alterations, payment of taxes, default reserves, delinquency charges, foreclosure proceedings, anticipation of maturity, additional and secondary liens, and other matters as the Secretary may in his discretion prescribe: *Provided*, That a mortgage insured under the provisions of subsection (d)(3) shall bear interest (exclusive of any premium charges for insurance and service charge, if any) at not less than the lower of (A) 3 per centum per annum, or (B) the annual rate of interest determined, from time to time by the Secretary of the Treasury at the request of the Secretary, by estimating the average market yield to maturity on all outstanding marketable obligations of the United States, and by adjusting such yield to the nearest one-eighth of 1 per centum, and there shall be no differentiation in the rate of interest charged under this proviso as between mortgagors under subsection (d)(3) on the basis of differences in the types or classes of such mortgagors; and

(6) provide for complete amortization by periodic payments (unless otherwise approved by the Secretary)⁵⁴ within such terms as the Secretary may prescribe, but as to mortgages coming within the provisions of subsection (d)(2) not to exceed from the date of the beginning of amortization of the mortgage (i) 40 years in the case of a displaced family, (ii) 35 years in the case of any other family if the mortgage is approved for insurance prior to construction, except that the period in such case may be increased to not more than 40 years where the mortgagor is not able, as determined by the Secretary, to make the required payments under a mortgage having a shorter amortization period, and (iii) 30 years in the case of any other

⁵⁴Section 446 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983, Pub. L. 98-181, approved November 30, 1983, added this parenthetical in sections 207(c)(3), 220(d)(4), 221(d)(6), and 231(c)(5) of the National Housing Act. Subsection (f) of such section (12 U.S.C. 1713 note) further provides as follows:

"(f) The aggregate number of dwelling units included in properties covered by mortgages insured pursuant to the authority granted in the amendments made by this section in any fiscal year may not exceed 10,000."

family where the mortgage is not approved for insurance prior to construction.

(e)(1) A mortgagor which may be approved by the Secretary as provided in subsection (d)(3) includes a mortgagor which, as a condition of obtaining insurance of the mortgage and prior to the submission of its application for such insurance, has entered into an agreement (in form and substance satisfactory to the Secretary) with a private nonprofit corporation eligible for an insured mortgage under the provisions of subsection (d)(3), that the mortgagor will sell the project when it is completed to the corporation at the actual cost of the project, as certified pursuant to section 227 of this Act. The mortgagor to whom the property is sold shall be regulated or supervised by the Secretary as provided in subsection (d)(3) to effectuate its purposes.

(2) The Secretary may at any time, under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, consent to the release of the mortgagor from his liability under the mortgage or the credit instrument secured thereby, or consent to the release of parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage.

(f) The property or project shall comply with such standards and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe to establish the acceptability of such property for mortgage insurance and may include such commercial and community facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants: *Provided*, That in the case of any such property or project located in an urban renewal area, the provisions of section 220(d)(3)(B)(iv) shall apply with respect to the nondwelling facilities which may be included in the mortgage: *Provided further*, That in the case of a mortgage which bears interest at the below-market interest rate prescribed in the proviso of subsection (d)(5), the provisions of section 220(d)(3)(B)(iv) shall only apply if the mortgagor waives the right to receive dividends on its equity investment in the portion thereof devoted to commercial facilities.

A property or project covered by a mortgage insured under the provisions of subsection (d)(3) or (d)(4) shall include five or more family units: *Provided*, That such units, in the case of a project designed primarily for occupancy by displaced, elderly, or handicapped families, need not, with the approval of the Secretary, contain kitchen facilities, and such projects may include central dining and other shared facilities. The Secretary is authorized to adopt such procedures and requirements as he determines are desirable to assure that the dwelling accommodations provided under this section are available to displaced families. Notwithstanding any provision of this Act, the Secretary, in order to assist further the provision of housing for low and moderate income families, in his discretion and under such conditions as he may prescribe, may insure a mortgage which meets the requirements of subsection (d)(3) of this section as in effect after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1961, or which meets the requirements of subsection (h), (i), or (j) with no premium charge, with a reduced premium charge, or with a premium charge for such period or periods during the time the insurance is in effect as the Secretary may determine, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such amounts as may be

necessary to reimburse the General Insurance Fund for any net losses in connection with such insurance. Any person who is sixty-two years of age or over, or who is a handicapped person within the meaning of section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, or who is a displaced person, shall be deemed to be a family within the meaning of the terms “family” and “families” as those terms are used in this section. Low- and moderate-income persons who are less than 62 years of age shall be eligible for occupancy of dwelling units in a project financed with a mortgage insured under subsection (d)(3).

In any case in which it is determined in accordance with regulations of the Secretary that facilities in existence or under construction on the date of enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 which could appropriately be used for classroom purposes are available in any such property or project and that public schools in the community are overcrowded due in part to the attendance at such schools of residents of the property or project, such facilities may be used for such purposes to the extent permitted in such regulations (without being subject to any of the requirements of the proviso in section 220(d)(3)(B)(iv) except the requirements that the project be predominantly residential).

As used in this section the terms “displaced family”, “displaced families”, and “displaced person” shall mean a family or families, or a person, displaced from an urban renewal area, or as a result of governmental action, or as a result of a major disaster as determined by the President pursuant to the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.⁵⁵

In order to induce advances by owners for capital improvements (excluding any owner contributions that may be required by the Secretary as a condition for assistance under section 201 of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978) to benefit projects covered by a mortgage under the provisions of subsection (d)(3) that bears a below market interest rate prescribed in the proviso to subsection (d)(5), in establishing the rental charge for the project the Secretary may include an amount that would permit a return of such advances with interest to the owner out of project income, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine. Any resulting increase in rent contributions shall be—

(A) to a level not exceeding the lower of 30 percent of the adjusted income of the tenant or the published existing fair market rent for comparable housing established under section 8(c) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(B) phased in equally over a period of not less than 3 years, if such increase is 30 percent or more; and

(C) limited to not more than 10 percent per year if such increase is more than 10 percent but less than 30 percent.

Assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 shall be provided, to the extent available under appropriations Acts, if necessary to mitigate any adverse effects on income-eligible tenants.

⁵⁵ Section 109 of the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Amendments of 1988, Pub. L. 100-707, approved Nov. 23, 1988, amended this sentence to refer to such sections of the “Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.” Probably intended to refer to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, renamed by section 102(a) of Pub. L. 100-707.

(g) The mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as hereinafter provided—

(1) as to mortgages meeting the requirements of paragraph (2) of subsection (d) of this section, paragraph (5) of subsection (h) of this section, or paragraph (2) of subsection (i) of this section as provided in section 204(a) of this Act with respect to mortgages insured under section 203, and the provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), and (k) of section 204 of this Act shall be applicable to such mortgages insured under this section, except that all references therein to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund or the Fund shall be construed to refer to the General Insurance Fund and all references therein to section 203 shall be construed to refer to this section; or

(2) as to mortgages meeting the requirements of paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection (d) of this section, paragraph (1) of subsection (h) of this section, or paragraph (2) of subsection (j) of this section, as provided in section 207(g) of this Act with respect to mortgages insured under said section 207, and the provisions of subsections (h), (i), (j), (k), and (l) of section 207 of this Act shall be applicable to such mortgages insured under this section; or

(3) as to mortgages meeting the requirements of this section which are insured or initially endorsed for insurance on or after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1961,⁵⁶ notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, the Secretary in his discretion, in accordance with such regulations as he may prescribe, may make payments pursuant to such paragraphs in cash or in debentures (as provided in the mortgage insurance contract), or may acquire a mortgage loan that is in default and the security therefor upon payment to the mortgagee in cash or in debentures (as provided in the mortgage insurance contract) of a total amount equal to the unpaid principal balance of the loan plus any accrued interest and any advances approved by the Secretary and made previously by the mortgagee under the provisions of the mortgage, and after the acquisition of any such mortgage by the Secretary the mortgagee shall have no further rights, liabilities, or obligations with respect to the loan or the security for the loan. The appropriate provisions of sections 204 and 207 relating to the issuance of debentures shall apply with respect to debentures issued under this paragraph, and the appropriate provisions of sections 204 and 207 relating to the rights, liabilities, and obligations of a mortgagee shall apply with respect to the Secretary when he has acquired an insured mortgage under this paragraph, in accordance with and subject to regulations (modifying such provisions to the extent necessary to render their application for such purposes appropriate and effective) which shall be prescribed by the Secretary, except that as applied to mortgages so acquired (A) all references in section 204 to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund or the fund shall be construed to refer to the General Insurance Fund, and (B) all references in section 204 to section

⁵⁶June 30, 1961.

203 shall be construed to refer to this section. If the insurance is paid in cash, there shall be added to such payment an amount equivalent to the interest which the debentures would have earned, computed to a date to be established pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary.

(4)(A) In the event any mortgage insured under this section pursuant to a commitment to insure entered into before the effective date of this clause⁵⁷ is not in default at the expiration of twenty years from the date the mortgage was endorsed for insurance, the mortgagee shall, within a period thereafter to be determined by the Secretary, have the option to assign, transfer, and deliver to the Secretary the original credit instrument and the mortgage securing the same and receive the benefits of the insurance as hereinafter provided in this paragraph, upon compliance with such requirements and conditions as to the validity of the mortgage as a first lien and such other matters as may be prescribed by the Secretary at the time the loan is endorsed for insurance. Upon such assignment, transfer, and delivery the obligation of the mortgagee to pay the premium charges for insurance shall cease, and the Secretary shall, subject to the cash adjustment provided herein, issue to the mortgagee debentures having a total face value⁵⁸ equal to the amount of the original principal obligation of the mortgage which was unpaid on the date of the assignment, plus accrued interest to such date. Debentures issued pursuant to this paragraph shall be issued in the same manner and subject to the same terms and conditions as debentures issued under paragraph (1) of this subsection, except that the debentures issued pursuant to this paragraph shall be dated as of the date the mortgage is assigned to the Secretary, shall mature ten years after such date, and shall bear interest from such date at the going Federal rate determined at the time of issuance. The term “going Federal rate” as used herein means the annual rate of interest which the Secretary of the Treasury shall specify as applicable to the six-month period (consisting of January through June or July through December) which includes the issuance date of such debentures, which applicable rate for each six-month period shall be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury by estimating the average yield to maturity, on the basis of daily closing market bid quotations or prices during the month of May or the month of November, as the case may be, next preceding such six-month period, on all outstanding marketable obligations of the United States having a maturity date of eight to twelve years from the first day of such month of May or November (or, if no such obligations

⁵⁷ November 30, 1983.

⁵⁸ Section 516(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, Pub. L. 102-550, provides as follows:

“(d) HOUSING FOR MODERATE INCOME AND DISPLACED FAMILIES.—The second sentence of section 221(g)(4)(A) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715l(g)(4)(A)) is amended by striking “, subject to the cash adjustment provided herein, issue to the mortgagee debentures having total face value” and inserting the following: “issue to the mortgagee debentures having a par value”.

The amendment could not be executed because the text proposed to be struck does not appear in this subparagraph.

are outstanding, the obligation next shorter than eight years and the obligation next longer than twelve years, respectively, shall be used), and by adjusting such estimated average annual yield to the nearest one-eighth of 1 per centum. The Secretary shall have the same authority with respect to mortgages assigned to him under this paragraph as contained in section 207(k) and section 207(l) as to mortgages insured by the Secretary and assigned to him under section 207 of this Act.

(B) In processing a claim for insurance benefits under this paragraph, the Secretary may direct the mortgagee to assign, transfer, and deliver the original credit instrument and the mortgage securing it directly to the Government National Mortgage Association in lieu of assigning, transferring, and delivering the credit instrument and the mortgage to the Secretary. Upon the assignment, transfer, and delivery of the credit instrument and the mortgage to the Association, the mortgage insurance contract shall terminate and the mortgagee shall receive insurance benefits as provided in subparagraph (A). The Association is authorized to accept such loan documents in its own name and to hold, service, and sell such loans as agent for the Secretary. The mortgagor's obligation to pay a service charge in lieu of a mortgage insurance premium shall continue as long as the mortgage is held by the Association or by the Secretary. The Secretary shall have the same authority with respect to mortgages assigned to the Secretary or the Association under this subparagraph as provided by section 223(c).

(C)(i) In lieu of accepting assignment of the original credit instrument and the mortgage securing the credit instrument under subparagraph (A) in exchange for receipt of debentures, the Secretary shall arrange for the sale of the beneficial interests in the mortgage loan through an auction and sale of the (I) mortgage loans, or (II) participation certificates, or other mortgage-backed obligations in a form acceptable to the Secretary (in this subparagraph referred to as "participation certificates"). The Secretary shall arrange the auction and sale at a price, to be paid to the mortgagee, of par plus accrued interest to the date of sale. The sale price shall also include the right to a subsidy payment described in clause (iii).

(ii)(I) The Secretary shall conduct a public auction to determine the lowest interest rate necessary to accomplish a sale of the beneficial interests in the original credit instrument and mortgage securing the credit instrument.

(II) A mortgagee who elects to assign a mortgage shall provide the Secretary and persons bidding at the auction a description of the characteristics of the original credit instrument and mortgage securing the original credit instrument, which shall include the principal mortgage balance, original stated interest rate, service fees, real estate and tenant characteristics, the level and duration of applicable Federal subsidies, and any other information determined by the Secretary to be appropriate. The Secretary shall also provide information regarding the status of the property with respect to the provisions of the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987

or any subsequent Act with respect to eligibility to prepay the mortgage, a statement of whether the owner has filed a notice of intent to prepay or a plan of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or any subsequent Act, and the details with respect to incentives provided under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or any subsequent Act in lieu of exercising prepayment rights.

(III) The Secretary shall, upon receipt of the information in subclause (II), promptly advertise for an auction and publish such mortgage descriptions in advance of the auction. The Secretary may conduct the auction at any time during the 6-month period beginning upon receipt of the information in subclause (II) but under no circumstances may the Secretary conduct an auction before 2 months after receiving the mortgagee's written notice of intent to assign its mortgage to the Secretary.

(IV) In any auction under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall accept the lowest interest rate bid for purchase that the Secretary determines to be acceptable. The Secretary shall cause the accepted bid to be published in the Federal Register. Settlement for the sale of the credit instrument and the mortgage securing the credit instrument shall occur not later than 30 business days after the date winning bidders are selected in the auction, unless the Secretary determines that extraordinary circumstances require an extension (not to exceed 60 days) of the period.

(V) If no bids are received, the bids that are received are not acceptable to the Secretary, or settlement does not occur within the period under subclause (IV), the mortgagee shall retain all rights (including the right to interest, at a rate to be determined by the Secretary, for the period covering any actions taken under this subparagraph) under this section to assign the mortgage loan to the Secretary.

(iii) As part of the auction process, the Secretary shall agree to provide a monthly interest subsidy payment from the General Insurance Fund to the purchaser under the auction of the original credit instrument or the mortgage securing the credit instrument (and any subsequent holders or assigns who are approved mortgagees). The subsidy payment shall be paid on the first day of each month in an amount equal to the difference between the stated interest due on the mortgage loan and the lowest interest rate necessary to accomplish a sale of the mortgage loan or participation certificates (less the servicing fee, if appropriate) for the then unpaid principal balance plus accrued interest at a rate determined by the Secretary. Each interest subsidy payment shall be treated by the holder of the mortgage as interest paid on the mortgage. The interest subsidy payment shall be provided until the earlier of—

(I) the maturity date of the loan;

(II) prepayment of the mortgage loan in accordance with the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or any subsequent Act, where applicable; or

(III) default and full payment of insurance benefits on the mortgage loan by the Federal Housing Administration.

(iv) The Secretary shall require that the mortgage loans or participation certificates presented for assignment are auctioned as whole loans with servicing rights released and also are auctioned with servicing rights retained by the current servicer.

(v) To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall encourage State housing finance agencies, nonprofit organizations, and organizations representing the tenants of the property securing the mortgage, or a qualified mortgagee participating in a plan of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or subsequent Act to participate in the auction.

(vi) The Secretary shall implement the requirements imposed by this subparagraph within 30 days from the date of enactment of this subparagraph⁵⁹ and not be subject to the requirement of prior issuance of regulations in the Federal Register. The Secretary shall issue regulations implementing this section within 6 months of the enactment of this subparagraph.⁵⁹

(vii) Nothing in this subparagraph shall diminish or impair the low income use restrictions applicable to the project under the original regulatory agreement or the revised agreement entered into pursuant to the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or subsequent Act, if any, or other agreements for the provision of Federal assistance to the housing or its tenants.

(viii) This subparagraph shall not apply after December 31, 2002, except that this subparagraph shall continue to apply if the Secretary receives a mortgagee's written notice of intent to assign its mortgage to the Secretary on or before such date. Not later than January 31 of each year (beginning in 1992), the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a report including statements of the number of mortgages auctioned and sold and their value, the amount of subsidies committed to the program under this subparagraph, the ability of the Secretary to coordinate the program with the incentives provided under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or subsequent Act, and the costs and benefits derived from the program for the Federal Government.

(ix)⁶⁰ The authority of the Secretary to conduct multifamily auctions under this paragraph shall be effective for any fiscal year only to the extent and in such amounts as are approved in appropriations Acts for the costs of loan guarantees (as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974), including the cost of modifying loans.

(h)(1) In addition to mortgages insured under the provisions of this section, the Secretary is authorized, upon application by the mortgagee, to insure under this subsection as hereinafter provided

⁵⁹The date of enactment was November 5, 1990.

⁶⁰Indented so in law.

any mortgage (including advances under such mortgage during rehabilitation) which is executed by a nonprofit organization to finance the purchase and rehabilitation of deteriorating or substandard housing for subsequent resale to low-income home purchasers and, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, to make commitments for the insurance of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon.

(2) To be eligible for insurance under paragraph (1) of this subsection, a mortgage shall—

(A) be executed by a private nonprofit corporation or association, approved by the Secretary, for financing the purchase and rehabilitation (with the intention of subsequent resale) of property comprising one or more tracts or parcels, whether or not contiguous, upon which there is located deteriorating or substandard housing consisting of (i) four or more single-family dwellings of detached, semidetached, or row construction, or (ii) four or more one-family units in a structure or structures for which a plan of family unit ownership approved by the Secretary is established;

(B) be secured by the property which is to be purchased and rehabilitated with the proceeds thereof;

(C) be in a principal amount not exceeding the appraised value of the property at the time of its purchase under the mortgage plus the estimated cost of the rehabilitation;

(D) bear interest (exclusive of premium charged for insurance and service charge, if any) at the rate in effect under the proviso in subsection (d)(5) at the time of execution;

(E) provide for complete amortization (subject to paragraph (5)(E)) by periodic payments within such term as the Secretary may prescribe; and

(F) provide for the release of individual single-family dwellings from the lien of the mortgage upon the sale of the rehabilitated dwellings in accordance with paragraph (5).

(3) No mortgage shall be insured under paragraph (1) unless the mortgagor shall have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Secretary that (A) the property to be rehabilitated is located in a neighborhood which is sufficiently stable and contains sufficient public facilities and amenities to support long-term values, or (B) the rehabilitation to be carried out by the mortgagor plus its related activities and the activities of other owners of housing in the neighborhood, together with actions to be taken by public authorities, will be of such scope and quality as to give reasonable promise that a stable environment will be created in the neighborhood.

(4) The aggregate principal balance of all mortgages insured under paragraph (1) and outstanding at any one time shall not exceed \$50,000,000.

(5)(A)⁶¹ No mortgage shall be insured under paragraph (1) unless the mortgagor enters into an agreement (in form and sub-

⁶¹Section 101(c)(4) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Pub. L. 90-448, 12 U.S.C. 1715z note) approved August 1, 1968, provides as follows:

“(4) The purchase of any individual dwelling, sold by a nonprofit organization pursuant to the provisions of section 221(h)(5) of the National Housing Act after the date of enactment of this section, may be financed with a mortgage insured under the provisions of section 235(j)(4) of such Act, but such mortgage shall bear interest at the rate provided in section 235(j)(2)(C) of such Act.”.

stance satisfactory to the Secretary) that it will offer to sell the dwellings involved, upon completion of their rehabilitation, to individuals or families (hereinafter referred to as “low-income purchasers”) determined by the Secretary to have incomes below the maximum amount specified (with respect to the area involved) in section 101(c)(1) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965.

(B) The Secretary is authorized to insure under this paragraph mortgages executed to finance the sale of individual dwellings to low-income purchasers as provided in subparagraph (A). Any such mortgage shall—

(i) be in a principal amount equal to that portion of the unpaid balance of the principal mortgage covering the property (insured under paragraph (1)) which is allocable to the individual dwelling involved; and

(ii) bear interest at the same rate as the principal mortgage or such lower rate, not less than 1 per centum, as the Secretary may prescribe if in his judgment the purchaser’s income is sufficiently low to justify the lower rate, and provide for complete amortization within a term equal to the remaining term (determined without regard to subparagraph (E) of such principal mortgage: *Provided*, That if the rate of interest initially prescribed is less than the rate borne by the principal mortgage and the purchaser’s income (as determined on the basis of periodic review) subsequently rises, the rate of interest so prescribed shall be increased (but not above the rate borne by such principal mortgage), under regulations of the Secretary, to the extent appropriate to reflect the increase in such income, and the mortgage shall so provide.

(C) The price for which any individual dwelling is sold to a low-income purchaser under this paragraph shall be the amount of the mortgage covering the sale as determined under subparagraph (B), except that the purchaser shall in addition thereto be required to pay on account of the property at the time of purchase such amount (which shall not be less than \$200, but which may be applied in whole or in part toward closing costs) as the Secretary may determine to be reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances.

(D) Upon the sale under this paragraph of any individual dwelling, such dwelling shall be released from the lien of the principal mortgage, and such mortgage shall thereupon be replaced by an individual mortgage insured under this paragraph to the extent of the portion of its unpaid balance which is allocable to the dwelling covered by such individual mortgage. Until all of the individual dwellings in the property covered by the principal mortgage have been sold, the mortgagor shall hold and operate the dwellings remaining unsold at any given time as though they constituted rental units in a project covered by a mortgage which is insured under subsection (d)(3) (and which receives the benefits of the interest rate provided for in the proviso in subsection (d)(5)).

(E) Upon the sale under this paragraph of all of the individual dwellings in the property covered by the principal mortgage, and the release of all individual dwellings from the lien of the principal mortgage, the insurance of the principal mortgage shall be termi-

nated and no adjusted premium charge shall be charged by the Secretary upon such termination.

(F) Any mortgage insured under this paragraph shall contain a provision that if the low-income mortgagor does not continue to occupy the property the interest rate shall increase to the highest rate permissible under this section and the regulations of the Secretary effective at the time of commitment for insurance of the principal mortgage; except that the increase in interest rate shall not be applicable if the property is sold and the purchaser is (i) the nonprofit organization which executed the principal mortgage (ii) a public housing agency having jurisdiction under the United States Housing Act of 1937 over the area where the dwelling is located, or (iii) a low-income purchaser approved for the purposes of this paragraph by the Secretary.

(6) In addition to the mortgages that may be insured under paragraphs (1) and (5), the Secretary is authorized to insure under this subsection at any time within one year after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, mortgages which are executed by individuals or families that meet the income criteria prescribed in paragraph (5)(A) and are executed for the purpose of financing the rehabilitation or improvement of single-family dwellings of detached, semidetached, or row construction that are owned in each instance by a mortgagor who has purchased the dwelling from a nonprofit organization of the type described in this subsection. To be eligible for such insurance, a mortgage shall—

(A) be in principal amount not exceeding the lesser of \$18,000 or the sum of the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the Secretary's estimate of the value of the property before repair and rehabilitation, except that in no case involving refinancing shall such mortgage exceed such estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation and the amount (as determined by the Secretary) required to refinance existing indebtedness secured by the property;

(B) bear interest (exclusive of premium charges for insurance and service charge, if any) at 3 per centum per annum or such lower rate, not less than 1 per centum, as the Secretary may prescribe if in his judgment the mortgagor's income is sufficiently low to justify the lower rate: *Provided*, That, if the rate of interest initially prescribed is less than 3 per centum per annum and the mortgagor's income (as determined on the basis of periodic review) subsequently rises, the rate shall be increased (but not above 3 per centum), under regulations of the Secretary, to the extent appropriate to reflect the increase in such income, and the mortgage shall so provide;

(C) involve a mortgagor that shall have paid on account of the property at the time of the rehabilitation such amount (which shall not be less than \$200 in cash or its equivalent, but which may be applied in whole or in part toward closing costs) as the Secretary may determine to be reasonable and appropriate under the circumstances; and

(D) contain a provision that, if the low-income mortgagor does not continue to occupy the property, the interest rate shall increase to the highest rate permissible under this sec-

tion and the regulations of the Secretary effective at the time the commitment was issued for insurance of the mortgage; except that the increase in interest rate shall not be applicable if the property is sold and the purchaser is (i) a nonprofit organization which has been engaged in purchasing and rehabilitating deteriorating and substandard housing with financing under a mortgage insured under paragraph (1) of this subsection, (ii) a public housing agency having jurisdiction under the United States Housing Act of 1937 over the area where the dwelling is located, or (iii) a low-income purchaser approved for the purposes of this paragraph by the Secretary.

(7) Where the Secretary approved a plan of family unit ownership, the terms "single-family dwelling," "single-family dwellings," "individual dwelling," and "individual dwellings" shall mean a family unit or family units, together with the undivided interest (or interests) in the common areas and facilities.

(8) For purposes of this subsection, the terms "single-family dwelling" and "single-family dwellings" (except for purposes of paragraph (7)) shall include a two-family dwelling which has been approved by the Secretary.

(i)(1) The Secretary is authorized, with respect to any project involving a mortgage insured under subsection (d)(3) which bears interest at the below-market interest rate prescribed in the proviso of subsection (d)(5), to permit a conversion of the ownership of such project to a plan of family unit ownership. Under such plan, each family unit shall be eligible for individual ownership and provision shall be included for the sale of the family units, together with an undivided interest in the common areas and facilities which serve the project, to low or moderate income purchasers. The Secretary shall obtain such agreements as he determines to be necessary to assure continued maintenance of the common areas and facilities. Upon such sale, the family unit and the undivided interest in the common areas shall be released from the lien of the project mortgage.

(2)(A) The Secretary is authorized, upon application by the mortgagee, to insure under this subsection mortgages financing the purchase of individual family units under the plan prescribed in paragraph (1). Commitments may be issued by the Secretary for the insurance of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe. To be eligible for such insurance, the mortgage shall—

(i) be executed by a mortgagor having an income within the limits prescribed by the Secretary for occupants of projects financed with a mortgage insured under subsection (d)(3) which bears interest at the below-market rate prescribed in the proviso of subsection (d)(5);

(ii) involve a principal obligation (including such initial service charges, and such appraisal, inspection, and other fees, as the Secretary shall approve) in an amount not to exceed the Secretary's estimate of the appraised value of the family unit, including the mortgagor's interest in the common areas and facilities, as of the date the mortgage is accepted for insurance;

(iii) bear interest at a rate determined by the Secretary (which may vary in accordance with the regulations of the Secretary promulgated pursuant to the last sentence of paragraph (4) of this subsection) but not less than the below-market rate in effect under the proviso of subsection (d)(5) at the date of the commitment for insurance; and

(iv) provide for complete amortization by periodic payments within such terms as the Secretary may prescribe, but not to exceed forty years from the beginning of amortization of the mortgage.

(B) The price for which the individual family unit is sold to the low or moderate income purchaser shall not exceed the appraised value of the property, as determined under subparagraph (A)(ii), except that the purchaser shall be required to pay on account of the property at the time of purchase at least such amount, in cash or its equivalent (which shall be not less than 3 per centum of such price, but which may be applied in whole or in part toward closing costs), as the Secretary may determine to be reasonable and appropriate.

(3) Upon the sale of all of the family units covered by the project mortgage, and the release of all of the family units (including the undivided interest allocable to each unit in the common areas and facilities) from the lien of the project mortgage, the insurance of the project mortgage shall be terminated and no adjusted premium charge shall be collected by the Secretary upon such termination.

(4) Any mortgage covering an individual family unit insured under this subsection shall contain a provision that, if the original mortgagor does not continue to occupy the property, the interest rate shall increase to the highest rate permissible under this section and the regulations of the Secretary effective at the time the commitment was issued for the insurance of the project mortgage; except that the requirement for an increase in interest rate shall not be applicable if the property is sold and the purchaser is (i) a nonprofit purchaser approved by the Secretary, or (ii) a low- or moderate-income purchaser who has an income within the limits prescribed by the Secretary for occupants of projects financed with a mortgage insured under subsection (d)(3) which bears interest at the below-market rate prescribed in the proviso of subsection (d)(5). The mortgage shall also contain a provision that, if the Secretary determines that the annual income of the original mortgagor (or a purchaser described in clause (ii) of the preceding sentence) has increased to an amount enabling payment of a greater rate of interest, the interest rate of the individual mortgage may be increased up to the highest rate permissible under the regulations of the Secretary for mortgages insured under this section, effective at the time the commitment was issued for the insurance of the mortgage.

(5) For the purpose of this subsection—

(i) the term “mortgage”, when used in relation to a mortgage insured under paragraph (2) of this subsection, includes a first mortgage given to secure the unpaid purchase price of a fee interest in, or a long-term leasehold interest in a one-

family unit in a multifamily project and an undivided interest in the common areas and facilities which serve the project; and

(ii) the term “common areas and facilities” includes the land and such commercial, community, and other facilities as are approved by the Secretary.

(j)(1) The Secretary is authorized, with respect to any rental project, involving a mortgage insured under subsection (d)(3) which bears interest at the below-market interest rate prescribed in the proviso of subsection (d)(5), to permit a conversion of the ownership of such project to a cooperative approved by the Secretary. Membership in such cooperative shall be made available only to those families having an income within the limits prescribed by the Secretary for occupants of projects financed with a mortgage insured under subsection (d)(3) which bears interest at such below-market rate: *Provided*, That families residing in the rental project at the time of its conversion to a cooperative who do not meet such income limits may be permitted to become members in the cooperative under such special terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(2) The Secretary is authorized, upon application by the mortgagee, to insure under this subsection cooperative mortgages financing the purchase of projects meeting the requirements of paragraph (1). Commitments may be issued by the Secretary for the insurance of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe. To be eligible for such insurance, the mortgage shall—

(i)⁶² involve a principal obligation (including such initial service charges and appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in an amount not exceeding the appraised value of the property for continued use as a cooperative, which value shall be based upon a mortgage amount on which the debt service can be met from the income of the property when operated on a nonprofit basis, after the payment of all operating expenses, taxes, and required reserves;

(ii)⁶³ bear interest at the below-market rate prescribed in the proviso of subsection (d)(5); and

(iii)⁶⁴ provide for complete amortization within such terms as the Secretary may prescribe.

(k) With respect to any project insured under subsection (d)(3) or (d)(4), the Secretary may further increase the dollar amount limitations which would otherwise apply for the purpose of those subsections by up to 20 per centum if such increase is necessary to account for the increased cost of the project due to the installation therein of a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11) (A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95–619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required

⁶² So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (A).

⁶³ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (B).

⁶⁴ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (C).

under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure.

(1)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, tenants residing in eligible multifamily housing whose incomes exceed 80 percent of area median income shall pay as rent not more than the lower of the following amounts: (A) 30 percent of the family's adjusted monthly income; or (B) the relevant fair market rental established under section 8(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 for the jurisdiction in which the housing is located. An owner shall phase in any increase in rents for current tenants resulting from this subsection.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term "eligible multifamily housing" means any housing financed by a loan or mortgage that is (A) insured or held by the Secretary under subsection (d)(3) and assisted under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 or section 8 of the United States Housing Act 1937; or (B) insured or held by the Secretary and bears interest at a rate determined under the proviso of subsection (d)(5).

■ [Section 222 repealed.]

MISCELLANEOUS HOUSING INSURANCE

SEC. 223. [12 U.S.C. 1715n] (a) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Act and without regard to limitations upon eligibility contained in any section or title of this Act, other than the limitation in section 203(g), the Secretary is authorized upon application by the mortgagee, to insure or make commitments to insure under any section or title of this Act any mortgage—

(1) executed in connection with the sale by the Government, or any agency or official thereof, of any housing acquired or constructed under Public Law 849, Seventy-sixth Congress, as amended; Public Law 781, Seventy-sixth Congress, as amended or Public Laws 9, 73, or 353, Seventy-seventh Congress, as amended (including any property acquired, held, or constructed in connection with such housing or to serve the inhabitants thereof); or

(2) executed in connection with the sale by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or by any public housing agency with the approval of the Secretary, of any housing (including any property acquired, held, or constructed in connection with such housing or to serve the inhabitants thereof) owned or financially assisted pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 671, Seventy-sixth Congress; or

(3) executed in connection with the sale by the Government, or any agency or official thereof, of any of the so-called Greenbelt towns, or parts thereof, including projects or parts thereof, known as Greenhills, Ohio; Greenbelt, Maryland; and Greendale, Wisconsin, developed under the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935, or of any of the village properties or employee's housing under the jurisdiction of the Tennessee Valley Authority, or of any housing under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior located within the town area of Coulee Dam, Washington, acquired by the United States for the construction, operation, and maintenance of Grand Coulee

Dam and its appurtenant works: *Provided*, That for the purpose of the applicant of this title to sales by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to subsection 3(b)(1) and 3(b)(2) of the Coulee Dam Community Act of 1957, the selling price of the property involved shall be deemed to be the appraised value, or of any permanent housing under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior constructed under the Boulder Canyon Project Act of December 21, 1928, as amended and supplemented, located within the Boulder City municipal area: *Provided*, That for purposes of the application of this title to sales by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to subsection 3(b)(1) and 3(b)(2) of the Boulder City Act of 1958, the selling price of the property involved shall be deemed to be the appraised value; or

(4) executed in connection with the sale by the Government or any agency or official thereof, of any housing (including any property acquired, held, or constructed in connection therewith or to serve the inhabitants thereof) pursuant to the Atomic Energy Community Act of 1955, as amended: *Provided*, That such insurance shall be issued without regard to any preferences or priorities except those prescribed by this Act or the Atomic Energy Community Act of 1955, as amended; or

(5) executed in connection with the sale by a State or municipality, or an agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision of either, of a project consisting of any permanent housing (including any property acquired, held, or constructed in connection therewith or to serve the inhabitants thereof), constructed by or on behalf of such State, municipality, agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision, for the occupancy of veterans of World War II, or Korean veterans, their families, and others; or

(6) executed in connection with the first resale, within two years from the date of its acquisition from the Government, of any portion of a project or property of the character described in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) above; or

(7) given to refinance an existing mortgage insured under this Act, or an existing mortgage held by the Secretary that is subject to a mortgage restructuring and rental assistance sufficiency plan pursuant to the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note)⁶⁵, provided that—

(A) the principal amount of any such refinancing mortgage shall not exceed the original principal amount or the unexpired term of such existing mortgage and shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee, except that (i) the principal amount of any such refinancing mortgage may equal the outstanding balance of an existing mortgage insured pur-

⁶⁵Section 103(d) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-233, 12 U.S.C. 1715m note, provides as follows:

“(d) STREAMLINED REFINANCING.—As soon as practicable, the Secretary shall implement a streamlined refinancing program under the authority provided in section 223 of the National Housing Act to prevent the default of mortgages insured by the FHA which cover multifamily housing projects, as defined in section 203(b) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978.”

suant to section 245, if the amount of the monthly payment due under the refinancing mortgage is less than that due under the existing mortgage for the month in which the refinancing mortgage is executed; (ii) a mortgagee may not require a minimum principal amount to be outstanding on the loan secured by the existing mortgage; (iii) in any case involving the refinancing of a loan in which the Secretary determines that the insurance of a mortgage for an additional term will inure to the benefits of the applicable insurance fund, taking into consideration the outstanding insurance liability under the existing insured mortgage, such refinancing mortgage may have a term not more than twelve years in excess of the unexpired term of such existing insured mortgage; and (iv) any multifamily mortgage that is refinanced under this paragraph shall be documented through amendments to the existing insurance contract and shall not be structured through the provisions of a new insurance contract; and

(B) a mortgage of the character described in paragraphs (1) through (6) of this subsection shall have a maturity and a principal obligation not in excess of the maximums prescribed under the applicable section or title of this Act, except that in no case may the principal obligation of a mortgage referred to in paragraph (5) of this subsection exceed 90 per centum of the appraised value of the mortgage property, and shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee;⁶⁶

(C) a mortgage that is subject to a mortgage restructuring and rental assistance sufficiency plan pursuant to the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) and is refinanced under this paragraph may have a term of not more than 30 years; or

(8) executed in connection with the sale by the Government of any housing acquired pursuant to section 1013 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966.

(b) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this title and without regard to limitations upon eligibility contained in section 221, the Secretary may in his discretion insure under section 221(d)(3) any mortgage executed by a mortgagor of the character described therein where such mortgage is given to refinance a mortgage covering an existing property or project (other than a one- to four-family structure) located in an urban renewal area, if the Secretary finds that such insurance will facilitate the occupancy of dwelling units in the property or project by families of low or moderate income or families displaced from an urban renewal area or displaced as a result of governmental action.

(c) The Secretary shall also have authority to insure under this Act any mortgage assigned to the Secretary in connection with payment under a contract of mortgage insurance or executed in con-

⁶⁶So in law.

nection with the sale by the Secretary, including a sale through another entity acting under authority of the fourth sentence of section 204(g), of any property acquired under any section or title of this Act without regard to any limitations or requirements contained in this Act upon eligibility of the mortgage, upon the payment of insurance premiums, or upon the terms and conditions of insurance settlement and the benefits of the insurance to be included in such settlement.

(d)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary is authorized to insure loans made to cover the operating losses of certain projects that have existing project mortgages insured by the Secretary. Insurance under this subsection shall be in the Secretary's discretion and upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, and shall be provided in accordance with the provisions of this subsection. For purposes of this subsection, the term "operating loss" means the amount by which the sum of the taxes, interest on the mortgage debt, mortgage insurance premiums, hazard insurance premiums, and the expense of maintenance and operation of the project covered by the mortgage, exceeds the income of the project.

(2) To be eligible for insurance pursuant to this paragraph—

(A) the existing project mortgage (i) shall have been insured by the Secretary at any time before or after the date of enactment of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987; and (ii) shall cover any property, other than a property upon which there is located a 1- to 4-family dwelling;

(B) the operating loss shall have occurred during the first 24 months after the date of completion of the project, as determined by the Secretary; and

(C) the loan shall be in an amount not exceeding the operating loss.

(3) To be eligible for insurance pursuant to this paragraph—

(A) the existing project mortgage (i) shall have been insured by the Secretary at any time before or after the date of enactment of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987; (ii) shall cover any property, other than a property upon which there is located a 1- to 4-family dwelling; and (iii) shall not cover a subsidized project, as defined by the Secretary;

(B) the loan shall be in an amount not exceeding 80 percent of the unreimbursed cash contributions made on or after March 18, 1987, by the project owner for the use of the project, during any period of consecutive months (not exceeding 24 months) in the first 10 years after the date of completion of the project, as determined by the Secretary, except that in no event may the amount of the loan exceed the operating loss during such period;

(C) the loan shall be made within 10 years after the end of the period of consecutive months referred to in the preceding subparagraph; and

(D) the project shall meet all applicable underwriting and other requirements of the Secretary at the time the loan is to be made.

(4) Any loan insured pursuant to this subsection shall (A) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and

mortgagee; (B) be secured in such manner as the Secretary shall require; (C) be limited to a term not exceeding the unexpired term of the original mortgage; and (D) be insured under the same section as the original mortgage. The Secretary may provide insurance pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3), or pursuant to both such paragraphs, in connection with an existing project mortgage, except that the Secretary may not provide insurance pursuant to both such paragraphs in connection with the same period of months referred to in paragraphs (2)(B) and (3)(B). The Secretary is authorized to collect a premium charge for insurance of loans pursuant to this subsection in an amount computed at the same premium rate as is applicable to the original mortgage. This premium shall be payable in cash or in debentures of the insurance fund under which the loan is insured at par plus accrued interest. In the event of a failure of the borrower to make any payment due under such loan or under the original mortgage, both the loan and original mortgage shall be considered in default, and if such default continues for a period of thirty days, the lender shall be entitled to insurance benefits, computed in the same manner as for the original mortgage, except that in determining the interest rate under section 224 for the debentures representing the portion of the claim applicable to the loan, the date of the commitment to insure the loan and the insurance date of the loan shall be taken into consideration rather than the commitment or insurance date for the original mortgage.

(5) A loan involving a project covered by a mortgage insured under section 213 that is the obligation of the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund shall be the obligation of such fund, and loans involving projects covered by a mortgage insured under section 236 or under any section of this title pursuant to subsection (e) of this section shall be the obligation of the Special Risk Insurance Fund.

(6) In determining the amount of an operating loss loan to be insured pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary shall not reduce such amount solely to reflect any amounts placed in escrow (at the time the existing project mortgage was insured) for initial operating deficits. If an operating loss loan was insured by the Secretary pursuant to this subsection before the date of the enactment of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992⁶⁷ and was reduced solely to reflect the amount placed in escrow for initial operating deficits, the Secretary shall insure, to the extent of the availability of insurance authority provided in appropriation Acts, an increase in the existing loan or a separate loan, in an amount equal to the lesser of (A) the maximum amount permitted under this subsection and the applicable underwriting requirements established by the Secretary and in effect at the time the loan is to be made, or (B) the amount of the escrow for initial operating deficits.

(e) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Act except section 212, and without regard to limitations upon eligibility contained in any section of this title or title XI, other than the limitation in section 203(g), the Secretary is authorized, upon application

⁶⁷ October 28, 1992.

by the mortgagee, to insure under any section of this title or title XI a mortgage executed in connection with the repair, rehabilitation, construction, or purchase of property located in an older, declining urban area in which the conditions are such that one or more of the eligibility requirements applicable to the section or title under which insurance is sought could not be met, if the Secretary finds that (1) the area is reasonably viable, giving consideration to the need for providing adequate housing or group practice facilities for families of low and moderate income in such area, and (2) the property is an acceptable risk in view of such consideration. The insurance of a mortgage pursuant to this subsection shall be the obligation of the Special Risk Insurance Fund.

(f)(1) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Act, the Secretary is authorized, in his discretion, to insure under any section of this title a mortgage executed in connection with the purchase or refinancing of an existing multifamily housing project or the purchase or refinancing of existing debt of an existing hospital (or existing nursing home, existing assisted living facility, existing intermediate care facility, existing board and care home, or any combination thereof).

(2) In the case of the purchase or refinancing under this subsection of a multifamily housing project located in an older, declining urban area, the Secretary shall make available an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000 of available purchase authority pursuant to section 305 of this Act to reduce interest rates on low- and moderate-income rental housing in projects having 100 units or less which otherwise could not support refinancing and moderate rehabilitation without causing excessive rent burdens on current tenants due to rent increases. The Secretary shall prescribe such terms and conditions as he deems necessary to assure that—

(A) the refinancing is used to lower the monthly debt service only to the extent necessary to assure the continued economic viability of the project, taking into account any rent reductions to be implemented by the mortgagor; and

(B) during the mortgage term no rental increases shall be made except those which are necessary to offset actual and reasonable operating expense increases or other necessary expense increases and maintain reasonable profit levels approved by the Secretary.

(3) For all insurance authorized by this subsection and provided pursuant to a commitment entered into after the date of enactment of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980,⁶⁸ the Secretary may not accept an offer to prepay or request refinancing of a mortgage secured by rental housing unless the Secretary takes appropriate action that will obligate the borrower (and successors in interest thereof) to utilize the property as a rental property for a period of five years from the date on which the insurance was provided (twenty years in the case of any such mortgage purchased under section 305) unless the Secretary finds that—

(A) the conversion of the property to a cooperative, or condominium form of ownership is sponsored by a bona fide ten-

⁶⁸ October 8, 1980.

ants' organization representing a majority of the households in the project;

(B) continuance of the property as rental housing is clearly unnecessary to assure adequate rental housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income people in the community; or

(C) continuance of the property as rental housing would have an undesirable and deleterious effect on the surrounding neighborhood.

(4) In the case of refinancing of an existing hospital (or existing nursing home, existing assisted living facility, existing intermediate care facility, existing board and care home, or any combination thereof) the Secretary shall prescribe such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems necessary to assure that—

(A) the refinancing is employed to lower the monthly debt service costs (taking into account any fees or charges connected with such refinancing) of such existing hospital (or existing nursing home, existing assisted living facility, existing intermediate care facility, existing board and care home, or any combination thereof);

(B) the proceeds of any refinancing will be employed only to retire the existing indebtedness and pay the necessary cost of refinancing on such existing hospital (or existing nursing home, existing assisted living facility, existing intermediate care facility, existing board and care home, or any combination thereof);

(C) such existing hospital (or existing nursing home, existing assisted living facility, existing intermediate care facility, existing board and care home, or any combination thereof) is economically viable; and

(D) the applicable requirements for certificates, studies, and statements of section 232 (for the existing nursing home, existing assisted living facility, intermediate care facility, board and care home, or any combination thereof, proposed to be refinanced) or of section 242 (for the existing hospital proposed to be refinanced) have been met.

(5) In the case of any purchase or refinancing under this subsection involving property to be rehabilitated or developed under section 17 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, the Secretary may—

(A) include rehabilitation or development costs of not to exceed \$20,000 per unit, except that the Secretary may increase such amount by not to exceed 25 per centum for specific properties where cost levels so require;

(B) permit subordinated liens securing up to the full amount of mortgage financing provided by State or local governments or agencies thereof; and

(C) pay such benefits in cash unless the mortgagee submits a written request for debenture payment.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, the Secretary may, in his discretion, insure a mortgage covering a multifamily housing project including units which are not self-contained.

DEBENTURE INTEREST RATE

SEC. 224. [12 U.S.C. 1715o] Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, debentures issued under any section of this Act with respect to a loan or mortgage accepted for insurance on or after thirty days following the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954 (except debentures issued pursuant to paragraph (4) of section 221(g)) shall bear interest at the rate in effect on the date the commitment to insure the loan or mortgage was issued, or the date the loan or mortgage was endorsed for insurance, or (when there are two or more insurance endorsements) the date the loan or mortgage was initially endorsed for insurance, whichever rate is the highest, except that debentures issued pursuant to section 220(f), section 220(h)(7), section 221(g), section 233, or section 238 may, at the discretion of the Secretary, bear interest at the rate in effect on the date they are issued. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence and the following paragraph, if an insurance claim is paid in cash for any mortgage that is insured under section 203 or 234 of this Act and is endorsed for mortgage insurance after the date of enactment of this sentence⁶⁹, the debenture interest rate for purposes of calculating such a claim shall be the monthly average yield, for the month in which the default on the mortgage occurred, on United States Treasury Securities adjusted to a constant maturity of 10 years.

The Secretary shall from time to time, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, establish such interest rate in an amount not in excess of the annual rate of interest determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, at the request of the Secretary, by estimating the average yield to maturity, on the basis of daily closing market bid quotations or prices during the calendar month next preceding the establishment of such rate of interest, on all outstanding marketable obligations of the United States having a maturity date of fifteen years or more from the first day of such next preceding month, and by adjusting such estimated average annual yield to the nearest one-eighth of 1 per centum.

OPEN-END MORTGAGES

SEC. 225. [12 U.S.C. 1715p] Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, in connection with any mortgage insured pursuant to any section of this Act which covers a property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for residential use for not more than four families in the aggregate, the Secretary is authorized upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to insure under said section the amount of any advance for the improvement or repair of such property made to the mortgagor pursuant to an "open-end" provision in the mortgage, and to add the amount of such advance to the original principal obligation in determining the value of the mortgage for the purpose of computing the amounts of debentures and certificate of claim to which the mortgagee may be entitled: *Provided*, That the Secretary may require the payment of such charges, including charges in lieu of insurance premiums, as he may consider appropriate for the insur-

⁶⁹ January 23, 2004.

ance of such “open-end” advances: *Provided further*, That only advances for such improvements or repairs as substantially protect or improve the basic livability or utility of the property involved shall be eligible for insurance under this section: *Provided further*, That no such advance shall be insured under this section if the amount thereof plus the amount of the unpaid balance of the original principal obligation of the mortgage would exceed the amount of such original principal obligation unless the mortgagor certifies that the proceeds of such advance will be used to finance the construction of additional rooms or other enclosed space as a part of the dwelling: *And provided further*, That the insurance of “open-end” advances shall not be taken into account in determining the aggregate amount of principal obligations of mortgages which may be insured under this Act.

APPRAISAL AVAILABLE TO HOME BUYERS

SEC. 226. [12 U.S.C. 1715q] The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to require that, in connection with any property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a single-family residence or a two-family residence and which is approved for mortgage insurance under section 203, 213 with respect to any property or project of a corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph numbered (2) of subsection (a) thereof, 220, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235(i), 237, or 903, of this Act, the seller or builder or such other person as may be designated by the Secretary shall agree to deliver, prior to the sale of the property, to the person purchasing such dwelling for his own occupancy, a written statement setting forth the amount of the appraised value of the property as determined by the Secretary. This section shall not apply in any case where the mortgage involved was insured or the commitment for such insurance was issued prior to the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954. Notwithstanding the first sentence of this section, the Secretary is authorized to require, in connection with any mortgage where the mortgage amount is computed on the basis of the Secretary's estimate of the replacement cost of the property, or on the basis of any other estimates of the Secretary, that a written statement setting forth such estimate or estimates, as the cases may be, be furnished under this section in lieu of a written statement setting forth the amount of the appraised value of the property.

BUILDER'S COST CERTIFICATION

SEC. 227. [12 U.S.C. 1715r] (a) REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided in subsection (b) and notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no mortgage covering new or rehabilitated multifamily housing or a property or project described in title XI shall be insured under this Act unless the mortgagor has agreed (A) to certify, upon completion of the physical improvements on the mortgaged property or project and prior to final endorsement of the mortgage, either (i) that the approved percentage of actual cost (as those terms are herein defined) equaled or exceeded the proceeds of the mortgage loan or (ii) the amount by which the proceeds of the mortgage loan exceeded such approved percentage of actual

cost, as the case may be, and (B) to pay forthwith to the mortgagee, for application to the reduction of the principal obligation of such mortgage, the amount, if any, certified to be in excess of such approved percentage of actual cost. Upon the Secretary's approval of the mortgagor's certification as required hereunder, such certification shall be final and incontestable, except for fraud or material misrepresentation on the part of the mortgagor.

(b) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS ASSISTED WITH LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT.—In the case of any mortgage insured under any provision of this title that is executed in connection with the construction, rehabilitation, purchase, or refinancing of a multifamily housing project for which equity provided through any low-income housing tax credit pursuant to section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 42), if the Secretary determines at the time of issuance of the firm commitment for insurance that the ratio of the loan proceeds to the actual cost of the project is less than 80 percent, subsection (a) of this section shall not apply.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) The term “new or rehabilitated multifamily housing” means a project or property approved for mortgage insurance prior to the construction or the repair and rehabilitation involved and covered by a mortgage insured or to be insured (i) under section 207, (ii) under section 213 with respect to any property or project of a corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph numbered (1) of subsection (a) thereof or with respect to any property or project of a mortgagor of the character described in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) thereof, (iii) under section 220 if the mortgage meets the requirements of paragraph (3)(B) of subsection (d) thereof, (iv) under section 221 if the mortgage meets the requirements of paragraph (3) or paragraph (4) of subsection (d) thereof, (v) under section 231, (vi) under section 233 if the mortgage meets the requirements of subsection (b), (vii) under section 810 if the mortgage meets the requirements of subsection (f), (viii) under section 234(d), or (ix) under section 236;

(2) The term “approved percentage” means the percentage figure which, under applicable provisions of this Act, the Secretary is authorized to apply to his estimate of value, cost, or replacement cost, as the case may be, of the property or project in determining the maximum insurable mortgage amount; except that if the mortgage is to assist the financing of repair or rehabilitation and no part of the proceeds will be used to finance the purchase of the land or structure involved, the approval percentage shall be 100 per centum; and

(3) The term “actual cost” has the following meaning: (i) in case the mortgage is to assist the financing of new construction, the term means the actual cost to the mortgagor of such construction, including amounts paid for labor, materials, construction contracts, off-site public utilities, streets, organizational and legal expenses, such allocations of general overhead items as are acceptable to the Secretary, and other items of expense approved by the Secretary, plus (I) a reasonable allowance for builder's profit if the mortgagor is also the builder as defined by the Secretary, and (II) an amount equal to the Secretary's estimate of the fair market

value of any land (prior to the construction of the improvements built as a part of the project) in the property or project owned by the mortgagor in fee (or, in case the land in the property or project is held by the mortgagor under a leasehold or other interest less than a fee, such amount as the mortgagor paid for the acquisition of such leasehold or other interest but in no event in excess of the fair market value of such leasehold or other interest exclusive of the proposed improvements), but excluding the amount of any kickbacks, rebates, or trade discounts received in connection with the construction of the improvements, or (ii) in case the mortgage is to assist the financing of repair or rehabilitation, the term means the actual cost to the mortgagor of such repair or rehabilitation, including the amounts paid for labor, materials, construction contracts, off-site public utilities, streets, organization and legal expenses, such allocations of general overhead items as are acceptable to the Secretary, and other items of expense approved by the Secretary, plus (I) a reasonable allowance for builder's profit if the mortgagor is also the builder as defined by the Secretary, and (II) an additional amount equal to (A) in case the land and improvements are to be acquired by the mortgagor and the purchase price thereof is to be financed with part of the proceeds of the mortgage, the purchase price of such land and improvements prior to such repair or rehabilitation, or (B) in case the land and improvements are owned by the mortgagor subject to an outstanding indebtedness to be refinanced with part of the proceeds of the mortgage, the amount of such outstanding indebtedness secured by such land and improvements, but excluding (for the purpose of this clause (ii)) the amount of any kickbacks, rebates, or trade discounts received in connection with the construction of the improvements: *Provided*, That such additional amount under (A) of this clause (ii) shall in no event exceed the Secretary's estimate of the fair market value of such land and improvements prior to such repair or rehabilitation, and such additional amount under (B) of this clause (ii) shall in no event exceed the approved percentage of the Secretary's estimate of the fair market value of such land and improvements prior to such repair or rehabilitation. In the case of a mortgage insured under section 220, section 221(d)(3), section 221(d)(4), section 231, section 233, or section 236 where the mortgagor is also the builder as defined by the Secretary, there shall be included in the actual cost, in lieu of the allowance for builder's profit under clause (i) or (ii) of the preceding sentence, an allowance for builder's and sponsor's profit and risk of 10 per centum (unless the Secretary, after finding that such allowance is unreasonable, shall by regulation prescribe a lesser percentage) of all other items entering into the term "actual cost" except land or amounts paid for a leasehold and amounts included under either (A) or (B) of clause (ii) of the preceding sentence. In the case of a mortgage insured under section 220, section 221(d)(3), section 221(d)(4), section 231, or section 233, where the mortgagor is not also the builder as defined by the Secretary, there shall be included in the actual cost an allowance for sponsor's profit and risk of the said 10 per centum or lesser percentage of all other items entering into the term "actual cost" except land or amounts paid for a leasehold, amounts included under either (A) or

(B) of the said clause (ii), and amounts paid by the mortgagor under a general construction contract.

SEC. 228. [12 U.S.C. 1715s] TREATMENT OF MORTGAGES COVERING TAX CREDIT PROJECTS.

(a) **DEFINITION.**—For purposes of this section, the term “insured mortgage covering a tax credit project” means a mortgage insured under any provision of this title that is executed in connection with the construction, rehabilitation, purchase, or refinancing of a multifamily housing project for which equity⁷⁰ provided through any low-income housing tax credit pursuant to section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 42).

(b) **ACCEPTANCE OF LETTERS OF CREDIT.**—In the case of an insured mortgage covering a tax credit project, the Secretary may not require the escrowing of equity provided by the sale of any low-income housing tax credits for the project pursuant to section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any other form of security, such as a letter of credit.

(c) **ASSET MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS.**—In the case of an insured mortgage covering a tax credit project for which project the applicable tax credit allocating agency is causing to be performed periodic inspections in compliance with the requirements of section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, such project shall be exempt from requirements imposed by the Secretary regarding periodic inspections of the property by the mortgagee. To the extent that other compliance monitoring is being performed with respect to such a project by such an allocating agency pursuant to such section 42, the Secretary shall, to the extent that the Secretary determines such monitoring is sufficient to ensure compliance with any requirements established by the Secretary, accept such agency’s evidence of compliance for purposes of determining compliance with the Secretary’s requirements.

(d) **STREAMLINED PROCESSING PILOT PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish a pilot program to demonstrate the effectiveness of streamlining the review process, which shall include all applications for mortgage insurance under any provision of this title for mortgages executed in connection with the construction, rehabilitation, purchase, or refinancing of a multifamily housing project for which equity⁷¹ provided through any low-income housing tax credit pursuant to section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The Secretary shall issue instructions for implementing the pilot program under this subsection not later than the expiration of the 180-day period beginning upon the date of the enactment of the Housing Tax Credit Coordination Act of 2008.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—Such pilot program shall provide for—

(A) the Secretary to appoint designated underwriters, who shall be responsible for reviewing such mortgage insurance applications and making determinations regarding the eligibility of such applications for such mortgage insurance in lieu of the processing functions regarding such ap-

⁷⁰So in law. Probably intended to insert “is” here.

⁷¹So in law. Probably intended to insert “is” here.

plications that are otherwise performed by other employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

(B) submission of applications for such mortgage insurance by mortgagees who have previously been expressly approved by the Secretary; and

(C) determinations regarding the eligibility of such applications for such mortgage insurance to be made by the chief underwriter pursuant to requirements prescribed by the Secretary, which shall include requiring submission of reports regarding applications of proposed mortgagees by third-party entities expressly approved by the chief underwriter.

VOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF INSURANCE

SEC. 229. [12 U.S.C. 1715t] Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act and with respect to any loan or mortgage heretofore or hereafter insured under this Act, except under section 2 and except as specified under section 250 of this Act and subtitle B of the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987,⁷² the Secretary is authorized to terminate any insurance contract upon request by the borrower or mortgagor and the financial institution or mortgagee and upon payment of such termination charge as the Secretary determines to be equitable, taking into consideration the necessity of protecting the various insurance Funds. Upon such termination, borrowers and mortgagors and financial institutions and mortgagees shall be entitled to the rights, if any, to which they would be entitled under this Act if the insurance contract were terminated by payment in full of the insured loan or mortgage.

AUTHORITY TO ASSIST MORTGAGORS IN DEFAULT

SEC. 230.⁷³ [12 U.S.C. 1715u]

(a)⁷⁴ Upon default or imminent default, as defined by the Secretary⁷⁵ of any mortgage insured under this title, mortgagees shall engage in loss mitigation actions for the purpose of providing an alternative to foreclosure (including but not limited to actions such as special forbearance, loan⁷⁶ modification, preforeclosure sale, support for borrower housing counseling, subordinate lien resolution, borrower incentives,⁷⁷ and deeds in lieu of foreclosure, as required, but not including assignment of mortgages to the Secretary

⁷² So in law.

⁷³ Section 407(b) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I, Pub. L. 104–99, approved January 26, 1996, amended this section to read as shown. Section 407(c) of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1710 note) provides as follows:

“(c) APPLICABILITY OF AMENDMENTS.—Except as provided in subsection (e), the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall apply with respect to mortgages insured under the National Housing Act that are executed before, on, or after October 1, 1997.”.

Subsection (e) of section 407 of such Act provided that the amendment made by subsection (a) would not take place under certain circumstances, which did not occur.

⁷⁴ Indented so in law.

⁷⁵ So in law. Probably should be a comma here.

⁷⁶ The amendment made by section 203(d)(1)(B) of division A of Public Law 111–22 amends subsection (a) by striking “loss” and inserting “loan”. The term “loss” appeared twice and such amendment did not specify to which occurrence of the word to be carried out; however, it was executed to the second place the word “loss” appears in order to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

under section 204(a)(1)(A)) or section 230(c)⁷⁸, as provided in regulations by the Secretary.

(b) PAYMENT OF PARTIAL CLAIM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary may establish a program for payment of a partial claim to a mortgagee that agrees to apply the claim amount to payment of a mortgage on a 1- to 4-family residence that is in default or faces imminent default, as defined by the Secretary.

(2) PAYMENTS AND EXCEPTIONS.—Any payment of a partial claim under the program established in paragraph (1) to a mortgagee shall be made in the sole discretion of the Secretary and on terms and conditions acceptable to the Secretary, except that—

(A) the amount of the payment shall be in an amount determined by the Secretary, not to exceed an amount equivalent to 30 percent of the unpaid principal balance of the mortgage and any costs that are approved by the Secretary;

(B) the amount of the partial claim payment shall first be applied to any arrearage on the mortgage, and may also be applied to achieve principal reduction;

(C) the mortgagor shall agree to repay the amount of the insurance claim to the Secretary upon terms and conditions acceptable to the Secretary;

(D) the Secretary may permit compensation to the mortgagee for lost income on monthly payments, due to a reduction in the interest rate charged on the mortgage;

(E) expenses related to the partial claim or modification may not be charged to the borrower;

(F) loans may be modified to extend the term of the mortgage to a maximum of 40 years from the date of the modification; and

(G) the Secretary may permit incentive payments to the mortgagee, on the borrower's behalf, based on successful performance of a modified mortgage, which shall be used to reduce the amount of principal indebtedness.

(3) PAYMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary may pay the mortgagee, from the appropriate insurance fund, in connection with any activities that the mortgagee is required to undertake concerning repayment by the mortgagor of the amount owed to the Secretary.

(c)(1) ASSIGNMENT.—

(A) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may establish a program for assignment to the Secretary, upon request of the mortgagee, of a mortgage on a 1- to 4-family residence insured under this Act.

(B) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may accept assignment of a mortgage under this paragraph only if—

(i) the mortgage was in default or facing imminent default, as defined by the Secretary;

⁷⁷ Executed to the probable intent of Congress. Section 203(d)(1)(C) of division A of Public Law 111–22 amends subsection (a) by inserting “preforeclosure sale, support for borrower housing counseling, subordinate lien resolution, borrower incentives,” after “loan modification.” See previous footnote.

(ii) the mortgagee has modified the mortgage to cure the default and provide for mortgage payments within the reasonable ability of the mortgagor to pay, at interest rates not exceeding current market interest rates; and

(iii) the Secretary arranges for servicing of the assigned mortgage by a mortgagee (which may include the assigning mortgagee) through procedures that the Secretary has determined to be in the best interests of the appropriate insurance fund.

(C) PAYMENT OF INSURANCE BENEFITS.—Upon accepting assignment of a mortgage under a program established under this subsection⁷⁹, the Secretary may pay insurance benefits to the mortgagee from the appropriate insurance fund, in an amount that the Secretary determines to be appropriate, not to exceed the amount necessary to compensate the mortgagee for the assignment and any losses and expenses resulting from the mortgage modification.

(2)⁸⁰ ASSIGNMENT AND LOAN MODIFICATION.—

(A) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may encourage loan modifications for eligible delinquent mortgages or mortgages facing imminent default, as defined by the Secretary, through the payment of insurance benefits and assignment of the mortgage to the Secretary and the subsequent modification of the terms of the mortgage according to a loan modification approved by the mortgagee.

(B) PAYMENT OF BENEFITS AND ASSIGNMENT.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary may pay insurance benefits for a mortgage, in the amount determined in accordance with section 204(a)(5), without reduction for any amounts modified, but only upon the assignment, transfer, and delivery to the Secretary of all rights, interest, claims, evidence, and records with respect to the mortgage specified in clauses (i) through (iv) of section 204(a)(1)(A).

(C) DISPOSITION.—After modification of a mortgage pursuant to this paragraph, the Secretary may provide insurance under this title for the mortgage. The Secretary may subsequently—

(i) re-assign the mortgage to the mortgagee under terms and conditions as are agreed to by the mortgagee and the Secretary;

(ii) act as a Government National Mortgage Association issuer, or contract with an entity for such purpose, in order to pool the mortgage into a Government National Mortgage Association security; or

(iii) re-sell the mortgage in accordance with any program that has been established for purchase by the Federal Government of mortgages insured under this title, and the Secretary may coordinate standards for interest rate reductions available for loan modification with interest rates established for such purchase.

⁷⁸So in law. The reference to “section 230(c)” probably should be to “subsection (c)”. See amendment made by section 203(d)(1)(E) of division A of Public Law 111–22.

⁷⁹Section 203(d)(3)(D) of division A of Public Law 111–22 amends subparagraph (C) by strik-

(D) LOAN SERVICING.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary may require the existing servicer of a mortgage assigned to the Secretary to continue servicing the mortgage as an agent of the Secretary during the period that the Secretary acquires and holds the mortgage for the purpose of modifying the terms of the mortgage, provided that the Secretary compensates the existing servicer appropriately, as such compensation is determined by the Secretary consistent, to the maximum extent possible, with section 203(b). If the mortgage is resold pursuant to subparagraph (C)(iii), the Secretary may provide for the existing servicer to continue to service the mortgage or may engage another entity to service the mortgage.

(d) PROHIBITION OF JUDICIAL REVIEW.—No decision by the Secretary to exercise or forego exercising any authority under this section shall be subject to judicial review.

[(e) [Repealed.]]

(f) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.—No provision of this Act, or any other law, shall be construed to require the Secretary to provide an alternative to foreclosure for mortgagees with mortgages on 1- to 4-family residences insured by the Secretary under this Act, or to accept assignments of such mortgages.

HOUSING FOR ELDERLY PERSONS

SEC. 231. [12 U.S.C. 1715v] (a) The purpose of this section is to assist in relieving the shortage of housing for elderly persons and to increase the supply of rental housing for elderly persons.

For the purposes of this section—

(1) the term “housing” means eight or more new or rehabilitated living units, not less than 50 per centum of which are specially designed for the use and occupancy of elderly persons;

(2) the term “elderly person” means any person, married or single, who is sixty-two years of age or over; and

(3) the terms “mortgage,” “mortgagee,” “mortgagor,” and “maturity date” shall have the meanings respectively set forth in section 207 of this Act.

(b) The Secretary is authorized to insure any mortgage (including advances on mortgages during construction) in accordance with the provisions of this section upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and to make commitments for insurance of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon.

(c) To be eligible for insurance under this section, a mortgage to provide housing for elderly persons shall—

[(1) [Repealed.]]

(2)(A) not to exceed, for such part of the property or project as may be attributable to dwelling use (excluding exterior land improvement as defined by the Secretary), \$35,978 per family unit without a bedroom, \$40,220 per family unit with one bedroom, \$48,029 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$57,798 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$67,950 per family unit with four or more bedrooms; except that as to projects to consist of elevator-type structures the Secretary may, in his dis-

cretion, increase the dollar amount limitations per family unit to not to exceed \$40,876 per family unit without a bedroom, \$46,859 per family unit with one bedroom, \$56,979 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$73,710 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$80,913 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, as the case may be, to compensate for the higher costs incident to the construction of elevator-type structures of sound standards of construction and design; (B) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the dollar limitations in subparagraph (A) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis, but in no case may any such increase exceed 90 percent where the Secretary determines that a mortgage purchased or to be purchased by the Government National Mortgage Association in implementing its special assistance functions under section 305 of this Act (as such section existed immediately before November 30, 1983) is involved; (C) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the dollar limitations in subparagraph (A) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) by not to exceed 20 per centum if such increase is necessary to account for the increased cost of the project due to the installation therein of a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11) (A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95-619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure;

(3) if executed by a mortgagor which is a public instrumentality or a private nonprofit corporation or association or other acceptable private nonprofit organization regulated or supervised under Federal or State laws or by political subdivisions of States, or agencies, thereof, or by the Secretary under a regulatory agreement or otherwise, as to rents, charges, and methods of operation, in such form and in such manner as, in the opinion of the Secretary, will effectuate the purpose of this section, involve a principal obligation not in excess of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed improvements are completed (the replacement cost may include the land, the proposed physical improvements, utilities within the boundaries of the land, architect's fees, taxes, interest during construction, and other miscellaneous charges incident to construction and approved by the Secretary): *Provided*, That in the case of properties other than new construction, the principal obligation shall not exceed the appraised value rather than the Secretary's estimate of the replacement cost;

(4) if executed by a mortgagor which is approved by the Secretary but is not a public instrumentality or a private non-

profit organization, involve a principal obligation not in excess (in the case of a property or project approved for mortgage insurance prior to the beginning of construction) of 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed improvements are completed (the replacement costs may include the land, the proposed physical improvements, utilities within the boundaries of the land, architect's fees, taxes, interest during construction, and other miscellaneous changes incident to construction and approved by the Secretary, and shall include an allowance for builder's and sponsor's profit and risk of 10 per centum of all of the foregoing items except the land unless the Secretary, after certification that such allowance is unreasonable, shall by regulation prescribe a lesser percentage): *Provided*, That in the case of properties other than new construction the principal obligation shall not exceed 90 per centum of the Secretary's estimate of the value of the property or project: *And provided further*, That the Secretary may in his discretion require such mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to rents or sales, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operation, and for such purpose the Secretary may make contracts with and acquire for not to exceed \$100 such stock or interest in any such mortgagor as the Secretary may deem necessary to render effective such restrictions or regulations; such stock or interest shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance;

(5) provide for a complete amortization by periodic payments (unless otherwise approved by the Secretary)⁸¹ within such terms as the Secretary shall prescribe;

(6) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee; and

(7) cover a property or project which is approved for mortgage insurance prior to the beginning of construction or rehabilitation, with 50 per centum or more of the units therein specially designed for the use and occupancy of elderly persons in accordance with standards established by the Secretary and which may include such commercial and special facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants.

(d) The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property or project from the lien of any mortgage insured under this section upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, and shall prescribe such procedures as in his judgment are necessary to secure to elderly persons a preference or priority of opportunity to rent the dwelling included in such property or project.

⁸¹Section 446 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983, Pub. L. 98-181, approved November 30, 1983, added this parenthetical in sections 207(c)(3), 220(d)(4), 221(d)(6), and 231(c)(5) of the National Housing Act. Subsection (f) of such section (12 U.S.C. 1713 note) further provides as follows:

"(f) The aggregate number of dwelling units included in properties covered by mortgages insured pursuant to the authority granted in the amendments made by this section in any fiscal year may not exceed 10,000."

(e) The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (n) of section 207 shall apply to mortgages insured under this section and all references therein to section 207 shall refer to this section.

(f) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this section, the housing provided under this section may include family units which are specially designed for the use and occupancy of any person or family qualifying as a handicapped family as defined in section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, and such special facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve handicapped families (as so defined). The Secretary may also prescribe procedures to secure to such families preference or priority of opportunity to rent the living units specially designed for their use and occupancy.

MORTGAGE INSURANCE FOR NURSING HOMES, INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES, AND BOARD AND CARE HOMES

SEC. 232. [12 U.S.C. 1715w] (a) The purpose of this section is to assist in the provision of facilities for any of the following purposes or for a combination of such purposes:

(1) The development of nursing homes for the care and treatment of convalescents and other persons who are not acutely ill and do not need hospital care but who require skilled nursing care and related medical services, including additional facilities for the nonresident care of elderly individuals and others who are able to live independently but who require care during the day.

(2) The development of intermediate care facilities and board and care homes for the care of persons who, while not in need of nursing home care and treatment, nevertheless are unable to live fully independently and who are in need of minimum but continuous care provided by licensed or trained personnel, including additional facilities for the nonresident care of elderly individuals and others who are able to live independently but who require care during the day.

(3) The development of assisted living facilities for the care of frail elderly persons.

(b) For the purposes of this section—

(1) the term “nursing home” means a public facility, proprietary facility, or facility of a private nonprofit corporation or association, licensed or regulated by the State (or, if there is no State law providing for such licensing and regulation by the State, by the municipality or other political subdivision in which the facility is located), for the accommodation of convalescents or other persons who are not acutely ill and not in need of hospital care but who require skilled nursing care and related medical services, in which such nursing care and medical services are prescribed by, or are performed under the general direction of, persons licensed to provide such care or services in accordance with the laws of the State where the facility is located;

(2) the term “intermediate care facility” means a proprietary facility or facility of a private nonprofit corporation or association licensed or regulated by the State (or, if there is no

State law providing for such licensing and regulation by the State, by the municipality or other political subdivision in which the facility is located) for the accommodation of persons who, because of incapacitating infirmities, require minimum but continuous care but are not in need of continuous medical or nursing services;

(3) the term “a nursing home” or “intermediate care facility” may include such additional facilities as may be authorized by the Secretary for the nonresident care of elderly individuals and others who are able to live independently but who require care during the day;

(4) the term “mortgage” means a first mortgage on real estate in fee simple, or on the interest of either the lessor or lessee thereof (A) under a lease, for not less than ninety-nine years which is renewable, or (B) under a lease having a period of not less than 10 years to run beyond the maturity date of the mortgage. The term “first mortgage” means such classes of first liens as are commonly given to secure advances (including but not limited to advances during construction) on, or the unpaid purchase price of, real estate under the laws of the State in which the real estate is located together with the credit instrument or instruments, if any, secured thereby, and any mortgage may be in the form of one or more trust mortgages or mortgage indentures or deeds of trust, securing notes, bonds, or other credit instruments, and, by the same instrument or by a separate instrument, may create a security interest in initial equipment, whether or not attached to the realty. The term “mortgagor” shall have the meaning set forth in section 207(a) of this Act;

(5) the term “board and care home” means any residential facility providing room, board, and continuous protective oversight that is regulated by a State pursuant to the provisions of section 1616(e) of the Social Security Act, so long as the home is located in a State that, at the time of an application is made for insurance under this section, has demonstrated to the Secretary that it is in compliance with the provisions of such section 1616(e);

(6) the term “assisted living facility” means a public facility, proprietary facility, or facility of a private nonprofit corporation that—

(A) is licensed and regulated by the State (or if there is no State law providing for such licensing and regulation by the State, by the municipality or other political subdivision in which the facility is located);

(B) makes available to residents supportive services to assist the residents in carrying out activities of daily living, such as bathing, dressing, eating, getting in and out of bed or chairs, walking, going outdoors, using the toilet, laundry, home management, preparing meals, shopping for personal items, obtaining and taking medication, managing money, using the telephone, or performing light or heavy housework, and which may make available to residents home health care services, such as nursing and therapy; and

(C) provides separate dwelling units for residents, each of which may contain a full kitchen and bathroom, and which includes common rooms and other facilities appropriate for the provision of supportive services to the residents of the facility; and

(7) the term “frail elderly person” has the meaning given the term in section 802(k) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act.

(c) The Secretary is authorized to insure any mortgage (including advances on such mortgages during construction) in accordance with the provisions of this section upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and to make commitments for insurance of such mortgage prior to the date of its execution or disbursement thereon.

(d) In order to carry out the purpose of this section, the Secretary is authorized to insure any mortgage which covers a new or rehabilitated nursing home, assisted living facility, or intermediate care facility, including a new addition to an existing nursing home, assisted living facility, or intermediate care facility and regardless of whether the existing home or facility is being rehabilitated, or any combination of nursing home, assisted living facility, and intermediate care facility or a board and care home including equipment to be used in its operation, subject to the following conditions:

(1) The mortgage shall be executed by a mortgagor approved by the Secretary. The Secretary may in his discretion require any such mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to charges and methods of financing, and, in addition thereto, if the mortgagor is a corporate entity, as to capital structure and rate of return. As an aid to the regulation or restriction of any mortgagor with respect to any of the foregoing matters, the Secretary may make such contracts with and acquire for not to exceed \$100 such stock or interest in such mortgagor as he may deem necessary. Any stock or interest so purchased shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund, and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance.

(2) The mortgage shall involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed 90 per centum of the estimated value of the property or project, or 95 percent of the estimated value of the property or project in the case of a mortgagor that is a private nonprofit corporation or association (under the meaning given such term for purposes of section 221(d)(3) of this Act), including—

(A) equipment to be used in the operation of the home or facility or combined home and facility when the proposed improvements are completed and the equipment is installed; or

(B) a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11) (A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95-619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum

property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure.

(3) The mortgage shall—

(A) provide for complete amortization by periodic payments within such terms as the Secretary shall prescribe; and

(B) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee. The Secretary shall not promulgate regulations or establish terms or conditions that interfere with the ability of the mortgagor and mortgagee to determine the interest rate; and⁸²

(4)(A) With respect to nursing homes and intermediate care facilities and combined nursing home and intermediate care facilities, the Secretary shall not insure any mortgage under this section unless he has received, from the State agency designated in accordance with section 604(a)(1) or section 1521 of the Public Health Service Act for the State in which is located the nursing home or intermediate care facility or combined nursing home and intermediate care facility covered by the mortgage, a certification that (i) there is a need for such home or facility or combined home and facility, and (ii) there are in force in such State or in the municipality or other political subdivision of the State in which the proposed home or facility or combined home and facility is to be located reasonable minimum standards of licensure and methods of operation governing it. No such mortgage shall be insured under this section unless the Secretary has received such assurance as he may deem satisfactory from the State agency that such standards will be applied and enforced with respect to any home or facility or combined home and facility located in the State for which mortgage insurance is provided under this section. If no such State agency exists, or if the State agency exists but is not empowered to provide a certification that there is a need for the home or facility or combined home and facility as required in clause (i) of the first sentence, the Secretary shall not insure any mortgage under this section unless (i) the State in which the home or facility or combined home and facility is located has conducted or commissioned and paid for the preparation of an independent study of market need and feasibility that (I) is prepared in accordance with the principles established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; (II) assesses, on a marketwide basis, the impact of the proposed home or facility or combined home and facility on, and its relationship to, other health care facilities and services, the percentage of excess beds, demographic projections, alternative health care delivery systems, and the reimbursement structure of the home, facility, or combined home and facility; (III) is addressed to and is acceptable to the Secretary in form and substance; and (IV) in the event the State does not prepare the study, is prepared by a financial consultant who is selected by the State or the applicant for mortgage insurance and is approved by the Secretary; and (ii) the State complies with

⁸² So in law.

the other provisions of this subparagraph that would otherwise be required to be met by a State agency designated in accordance with section 604(a)(1) or section 1521 of the Public Health Service Act. The proposed mortgagor may reimburse the State for the cost of the independent feasibility study required in the preceding sentence. In the case of a small intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded or developmentally disabled, or a board and care home housing less than 10 individuals, the State program agency or agencies responsible for licensing, certifying, financing, or monitoring the facility or home may, in lieu of the requirements of clause (i) of the third sentence, provide the Secretary with written support identifying the need for the facility or home.

(B) With respect to board and care homes, the Secretary shall not insure any mortgage under this section unless he has received from the appropriate State licensing agency a statement verifying that the State in which the home is or is to be located is in compliance with the provisions of section 1616(e) of the Social Security Act.

(C) With respect to assisted living facilities or any such facility combined with any other home or facility, the Secretary shall not insure any mortgage under this section unless—

(i) the Secretary determines that the level of financing acquired by the mortgagor and any other resources available for the facility will be sufficient to ensure that the facility contains dwelling units and facilities for the provision of supportive services in accordance with subsection (b)(6);

(ii) the mortgagor provides assurances satisfactory to the Secretary that each dwelling unit in the facility will not be occupied by more than 1 person without the consent of all such occupants; and

(iii) the appropriate State licensing agency for the State, municipality, or other political subdivision in which the facility is or is to be located provides such assurances as the Secretary considers necessary that the facility will comply with any applicable standards and requirements for such facilities.

(e) The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property or project from the lien of any mortgage insured under this section upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

(f) The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (n) of section 207 shall apply to mortgages insured under this section and all references therein to section 207 shall refer to this section.

(g) The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section relating to intermediate care facilities, after consulting with the Secretary of Health and Human Services with respect to any health or medical aspects of the program which may be involved in such regulations.

(h) The Secretary shall also consult with the Secretary of Health and Human Services as to the need for and the availability

of intermediate care facilities in any area for which an intermediate care facility is proposed under this section.

(i)(1) The Secretary is authorized upon such terms and condition as he may prescribe to make commitments to insure and to insure loans made by financial institutions or other approved mortgagees to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and intermediate care facilities or to board and care homes to provide for the purchase and installation of fire safety equipment necessary for compliance with the 1967 edition of the Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association (or any subsequent edition specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services) or other such codes or requirements approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as conditions of participation for providers of services under title XVIII and title XIX of the Social Security Act or as mandated by a State under the provisions of section 1616(e) of such Act.

(2) To be eligible for insurance under this subsection a loan shall—

(A) not exceed the Secretary's estimate of the reasonable cost of the equipment fully installed;

(B) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee;

(C) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary;

(D) be made by a financial institution or other mortgagee approved by the Secretary as eligible for insurance under section 2 or a mortgagee approved under section 203(b)(1);

(E) comply with other such terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary may prescribe; and

(F) in the case of board and care homes, be made with respect to such a home located in a State with respect to which the Secretary has received from the appropriate State licensing agency a statement verifying that the State in which the home is or is to be located is in compliance with the provisions of section 1616(e) of the Social Security Act.

(3) The provisions of paragraphs (5), (6), (7), (9), and (10) of section 220(h) shall be applicable to loans insured under this subsection, except that all references to "home improvement loans" shall be construed to refer to loans under this subsection.

(4) The provisions of subsections (c), (d), and (h) of section 2 shall apply to loans insured under this subsection, and for the purpose of this subsection references in such subsections to "this section" or "this title" shall be construed to refer to this subsection.

(j) The Secretary shall establish schedules and deadlines for the processing and approval (or provision of notice of disapproval) of applications for mortgage insurance under this section. The Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress annually describing such schedules and deadlines and the extent of compliance by the Department with the schedules and deadlines during the year.

EXPERIMENTAL HOUSING

SEC. 233. [12 U.S.C. 1715x] (a)(1) In order to assist in lowering housing costs and improving housing standards, quality, livability, or durability or neighborhood design through the utilization

of advanced housing technology, or experimental property standards, the Secretary is authorized to insure and to make commitments to insure, under this section, mortgages (including home improvement loans, and including advances on mortgages during construction) secured by properties including dwellings involving the utilization and testing of advanced technology in housing design, materials, or construction, or experimental property standards for neighborhood design if the Secretary determines that (A) the property is an acceptable risk, giving consideration to the need for testing advanced housing technology or experimental property standards, (B) the utilization and testing of the advanced technology or experimental property standards involved will provide data or experience which the Secretary deems to be significant in reducing housing costs or improving housing standards, quality, livability, or durability, or improving neighborhood design, and (C) the mortgages are eligible for insurance under the provisions of this section and under any further terms and conditions which may be prescribed by the Secretary to establish the acceptability of the mortgages for insurance.

(2) The Secretary is further authorized to insure and to make commitments to insure, under this section, mortgages (including advances on mortgages during construction) secured by properties in projects to be carried out in accordance with plans approved by the Secretary under section 108 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

(b) To be eligible for insurance under this section, a mortgage shall meet the requirements of one of the other sections or titles of this Act; except that, in lieu of determining the appraised value or the replacement cost of the property in cases involving new construction or the estimated cost of repair and rehabilitation or improvement in cases involving existing properties, the Secretary shall estimate the cost of replacing the property using comparable conventional design, materials, and construction, and any limitation upon the maximum mortgage amount available to a nonoccupant owner shall not, in the discretion of the Secretary, be applicable to mortgages insured under this section.

(c) The Secretary may enter into such contracts, agreements, and financial undertakings with the mortgagor and others as he deems necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this section, and may expend available funds for such purposes, including the correction (when he determines it necessary to protect the occupants), at any time subsequent to insurance of a mortgage, of defects or failures in the dwellings which the Secretary finds are caused by or related to the advanced housing technology utilized in their design or construction or experimental property standards. Any authority which the Secretary may exercise in connection with a mortgage, or property covered by a mortgage, insured under any other section of this title (including payments to reduce rentals for, or to facilitate homeownership by, lower income families) may be exercised in connection with a mortgage, or property covered by a mortgage, meeting the requirements, of such other section (except as specified in subsection (b)), which is insured under this section to the same extent and in the same manner as if the mortgage insured under this section was insured under such other section.

(d) The Secretary may make such investigations and analyses of data, and publish and distribute such reports, as he determines to be necessary or desirable to assure the most beneficial use of the data and information to be acquired as a result of this section.

(e) Any mortgage or lender under a mortgage insured under subsection (b) shall be entitled to insurance benefits determined in the same manner as such benefits would be determined if such mortgage or loan were insured under the section or title of this Act for which it otherwise would have been eligible except for the experimental feature of the property involved.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, in the case of default on any mortgage insured under this section, the Secretary in his discretion, in accordance with such regulations as he may prescribe, may make payments pursuant to such subsections in cash or in debentures (as provided in the mortgage insurance contract), or may acquire the mortgage loan and the security therefor upon payment to the mortgagee in cash or in debentures (as provided in the mortgage insurance contract) of a total amount equal to the unpaid principal balance of the loan plus any accrued interest and any advances approved by the Secretary made previously by the mortgagee under the provisions of the mortgage. After the acquisition of the mortgage by the Secretary the mortgagee shall have no further rights, liabilities, or obligations with respect to the mortgage. The appropriate provisions of sections 204 and 207 relating to the issuance of debentures shall apply with respect to debentures issued under this subsection, and the appropriate provisions of sections 204 and 207 relating to the rights, liabilities, and obligations of a mortgagee shall apply with respect to the Secretary when he has acquired an insured mortgage under this subsection, in accordance with and subject to regulations (modifying such provisions to the extent necessary to render their application for such purposes appropriate and effective) which shall be prescribed by the Secretary, except that as applied to mortgages insured under this section (1) all references in section 204 to the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund or the Fund shall be construed to refer to the General Insurance Fund, and (2) all references in section 204 to section 203 shall be construed to refer to this section (g).

MORTGAGE INSURANCE FOR CONDOMINIUMS

SEC. 234. [12 U.S.C. 1715y] (a) The purpose of this section is to provide an additional means of increasing the supply of privately owned dwelling units where, under the laws of the State in which the property is located, real property title and ownership are established with respect to a one-family unit which is part of a multifamily project.

(b) The terms “mortgage,” “mortgagee,” “mortgagor,” “maturity date,” and “State” shall have the meanings respectively set forth in section 201, except, that the term “mortgage” for the purpose of subsection (c) may include a first mortgage given to secure the unpaid purchase price of a fee interest in, or long-term leasehold interest in, a one-family unit in a multifamily project, including a project in which the dwelling units are attached, semi-detached, or

detached, and an undivided interest in the common areas and facilities which serve the project where the mortgage is determined by the Secretary to be eligible for insurance under this section. The term "common areas and facilities" as used in this section shall be deemed to include the land and such commercial, community, and other facilities as are approved by the Secretary.

(c) The Secretary is authorized, in his discretion and under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe (including the minimum number of family units in the project which shall be offered for sale and provisions for the protection of the consumer and the public interest), to insure any mortgage covering a one-family unit in a multifamily project and an undivided interest in the common areas and facilities which serve the project if (1) the mortgage meets the requirements of this subsection and of section 203(b), except as that section is modified by this subsection, (2) at least 80 percent of the units in the project covered by mortgages insured under this title are occupied by the mortgagors or comortgagors, and (3) the project has a blanket mortgage insured by the Secretary under subsection (d). Any project proposed to be constructed or rehabilitated after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1961⁸³ with the assistance of mortgage insurance under this Act, where the sale of family units is to be assisted with mortgage insurance under this subsection, shall be subject to such requirements as the Secretary may prescribe. To be eligible for insurance pursuant to this subsection, a mortgage shall (A) involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed the maximum principal obligation of a mortgage which may be insured in the area pursuant to section 203(b)(2) or pursuant to section 203(h) under the conditions described in section 203(h) or pursuant to section 203(h) under the conditions described in section 203(h)⁸⁴, and (B) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary, but not to exceed, in any event, thirty-five years from the date of the beginning of amortization of the mortgages. The mortgage shall contain such provisions as the Secretary determines to be necessary for the maintenance of common areas and facilities and the multifamily project. The mortgagor shall have exclusive right to the use of the one-family unit covered by the mortgage and, together with the owners of other units in the multifamily project, shall have the right to the use of the common areas and facilities serving the project and the obligation of maintaining all such common areas and facilities. The Secretary may require that the rights and obligations of the mortgagor and the owners of other dwelling units in the project shall be subject to such controls as he determines to be necessary and feasible to promote and protect individual owners, the multifamily project and its occupants. For the purposes of this subsection, the Secretary is authorized in his discretion and under such terms and

⁸³ June 30, 1961.

⁸⁴ The last two references in this sentence to section 203(h) were added by the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-211, 108 Stat. 12, approved February 12, 1994. The undesignated paragraph (12 U.S.C. 1709 note) following the paragraph in which such amendments were made provides as follows:

"Eligibility for loans made under the authority granted by the preceding paragraph shall be limited to persons whose principal residence was damaged or destroyed as a result of the January 1994 earthquake in Southern California: *Provided*, That the provisions under this heading shall be effective only for the 18-month period following the date of enactment of this Act.

conditions as he may prescribe to permit one-family units and interests in common areas and facilities in multifamily projects covered by mortgages insured under any section of this Act other than section 213(a) (1) and (2) to be released from the liens of those mortgages.

(d)⁸⁵ In addition to individual mortgages insured under subsection (c), the Secretary is authorized, in his discretion and under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to insure blanket mortgages (including advances on such mortgages during construction) which cover multifamily projects to be constructed or rehabilitated in cases where the mortgage is held by a mortgagor, approved by the Secretary, which—

(1) has certified to the Secretary, as a condition of obtaining the insurance of a blanket mortgage under this subsection, that upon completion of the multifamily project covered by such mortgage it intends to commit the ownership of the multifamily project to a plan of family unit ownership under which each family unit would be eligible for individual mortgage insurance under subsection (c) and will faithfully and diligently make and carry out all reasonable efforts to establish such plan of family unit ownership and to sell such family units to purchasers approved by the Secretary; and

(2) may, in the Secretary's discretion, be regulated or restricted as to rents, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operation until the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance and during such further period of time as the Secretary shall be the owner, holder, or reinsurer of the mortgage. The Secretary may make such contracts with and acquire for not to exceed \$100 such stock or interest in such mortgagor as he may deem necessary to render effective any such regulation or restriction of such mortgagor.⁸⁶ The stock or interest acquired by the Secretary shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund, and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par at any time upon the request of the Secretary after the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance.

(e) To be eligible for insurance, a blanket mortgage on any multi-family project of a mortgagor of the character described in subsection (d) shall involve a principal obligation in an amount—

[(1) **Repealed.**]

(2) not to exceed 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the project when the proposed physical improvements are completed;

(3)(A) not to exceed, for such part of the project as may be attributable to dwelling use (excluding exterior land improvements as defined by the Secretary), \$42,048 per family unit

⁸⁵ Insurance is authorized by the Housing Act of 1964 for blanket mortgages to finance the construction or rehabilitation of multifamily projects to be sold as condominiums.

⁸⁶ Section 431(b) of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983, Pub. L. 98-181, approved November 30, 1983, amended the preceding portion of this paragraph to make the regulation of rents or charges discretionary rather than mandatory. Section 431(c) of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1713 note) further provides as follows:

“(c) The amendments made in this section shall not apply with respect to mortgages insured by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development before the date of the enactment of this Act.”.

without a bedroom, \$48,481 per family unit with one bedroom, \$58,469 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$74,840 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$83,375 per family unit with four or more bedrooms; except that as to projects to consist of elevator-type structures the Secretary may, in his discretion, increase the dollar amount limitations per family unit to not to exceed \$44,250 per family unit without a bedroom, \$50,724 per family unit with one bedroom, \$61,680 per family unit with two bedrooms, \$79,793 per family unit with three bedrooms, and \$87,588 per family unit with four or more bedrooms, as the case may be, to compensate for higher costs incident to the construction of elevator-type structures of sound standards of construction and design; (B) the Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the dollar limitations in subparagraph (A) (as such limitations may have been adjusted in accordance with section 206A of this Act) by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis, but in no case may any such increase exceed 90 percent where the Secretary determines that a mortgage purchased or to be purchased by the Government National Mortgage Association in implementing its special assistance functions under section 305 of this Act (as such section existed immediately before November 30, 1983) is involved; and

(4) not to exceed an amount equal to the sum of the unit mortgage amounts determined under the provisions of subsection (c) assuming the mortgagor to be the owner and occupant of each family unit.

(f) Any blanket mortgage insured under subsection (d) shall provide for complete amortization by periodic payments within such terms as the Secretary may prescribe but not to exceed 40 years from the beginning of amortization of the mortgage, and shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee. The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the blanket mortgage upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and the blanket mortgage may provide for such release. The project covered by the blanket mortgage may include four or more family units and such commercial and community facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants.

(g) Any mortgagee under a mortgage insured under subsection (c) of this section is entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as provided in section 204(a) of this Act with respect to mortgages insured under section 203, and the provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), and (k) of section 204 shall be applicable to the mortgages insured under subsection (c) of this section.

(h) The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (n) of section 207 shall be applicable to mortgages insured under subsection (d) of this section.

(i) The provisions of sections 225 and 230 shall be applicable to the mortgages insured under subsection (c) of this section.

(j) The Secretary may further increase the dollar amount limitations which would otherwise apply under subsection (e) by not to exceed 20 per centum if such increase is necessary to account for the increased cost of a project due to the installation therein of a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11) (A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95–619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure.

(k) With respect to a unit in any project which was converted from rental housing, no insurance may be provided under this section unless (1) the conversion occurred more than one year prior to the application for insurance, (2) the mortgagor or comortgagor was a tenant of that rental housing, (3) the conversion of the property is sponsored by a bona fide tenants organization representing a majority of the households in the project, or (4) before April 20, 1984 (A) application was made to the Secretary for a commitment to insure a mortgage covering any unit in the project, (B) in the case of direct endorsement, the mortgagee received the case number assigned by the Secretary for any unit in the project, or (C) application was made for approval of the project for guarantee, insurance, or direct loan under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code.

HOMEOWNERSHIP FOR LOWER INCOME FAMILIES

SEC. 235. [Note.—Section 235 of the National Housing Act establishes a program of homeownership assistance for lower income families, and is set forth in Part V of this compilation.]

RENTAL AND COOPERATIVE HOUSING FOR LOWER INCOME FAMILIES

SEC. 236. [Note.—Section 236 of the National Housing Act establishes a program of rental and cooperative housing assistance for lower income families, and is set forth in Part IV of this compilation.] [Section 237 repealed.]

PAYMENT OF INSURANCE—SPECIAL RISK INSURANCE FUND

SEC. 238. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–3] (a)(1) Any mortgagee under a mortgage insured under section 235(i), 235(j)(4), 237, or 243 shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as provided in section 204(a) with respect to mortgages insured under section 203. The provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d), (g), (j), and (k) of section 204 shall be applicable to mortgages insured under section 235(i), 235(j)(4), 237, or 243, except that all references therein to the “Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund” shall be construed to refer to the “Special Risk Insurance Fund”, and all references therein to section 203 shall be construed to refer to section 235(i), 235(j)(4), 237, or 243, as may be appropriate.

(2) Any mortgage under a mortgage insured under section 235(j)(1) or 236 shall be entitled to receive the benefits of insurance as provided in section 207(g) with respect to mortgages insured under section 207. The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (h), (i), (j),

(k), (l), and (n) of section 207 shall be applicable to mortgages insured under section 235(j)(1) or 236, except that all references therein to the "General Insurance Fund" shall be construed to refer to the "Special Risk Insurance Fund" and the premium charged provided in section 207(d) shall be payable only in cash or debentures of the Special Risk Insurance Fund.

(3) In lieu of the amount of insurance benefits computed pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection the Secretary, in his discretion and in accordance with such regulations as he may prescribe, may (with respect to any mortgage loan acquired by him) compute and pay insurance benefits to the mortgagee in a total amount equal to the unpaid principal balance of the loan plus any accrued interest and any advances approved by the Secretary and made previously by the mortgagee under the provisions of the mortgage.

(b) There is hereby created a Special Risk Insurance Fund (hereinafter referred to as the "fund") which shall be used by the Secretary as a revolving fund for carrying out the mortgage insurance obligations of sections 223(e), 233(a)(2), 235, 236, 237, and 243, and the Secretary is hereby authorized to advance to the fund, at such times and in such amounts as he may determine to be necessary, a total sum of \$20,000,000 from the General Insurance Fund established pursuant to the provisions of section 519. Such advance shall be repayable at such times and at such rates of interest as the Secretary deems appropriate. Premium charges, adjusted premium charges, inspection and other fees, service charges, and any other income received by the Secretary under sections 223(e), 233(a)(2), 235, 236, and 237, together with all earnings on the assets of the fund, shall be credited to the fund. All payments made pursuant to claims of mortgagees with respect to mortgages insured under sections 233(a)(2), 235, 236, 237, and 243 or pursuant to section 223(e), cash adjustments, the principal of and interest paid on debentures which are the obligation of the fund, expenses incurred in connection with or as a consequence of the acquisition and disposal of property acquired under such sections, and all administrative expenses in connection with the mortgage insurance operations under such sections shall be paid out of the fund. Moneys in the fund not needed for current operations of the fund shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States to the credit of the fund or invested in bonds or obligations of, or in bonds or other obligations guaranteed by, the United States or any agency of the United States: *Provided*, That such moneys shall to the maximum extent feasible be invested in such bonds or other obligations the proceeds of which will be used to directly support the residential mortgage market. The Secretary, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, may purchase in the open market debentures which are the obligation of the fund. Such purchases shall be made at a price which will provide an investment yield of not less than the yield obtained from other investments authorized by this section. Debentures so purchased shall be canceled and not reissued.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this or any other Act, and without regard to limitations upon eligibility contained in any section of this title, the Secretary is authorized, upon application

by the mortgagee, to insure under any section of this title a mortgage executed in connection with the construction, repair, rehabilitation, or purchase of property located near any installation of the Armed Forces of the United States in federally impacted areas in which the conditions are such that one or more of the eligibility requirements applicable to the section under which insurance is sought could not be met, if (A) the Secretary finds that the benefits to be derived from such use outweigh the risk of probable cost to the Government, and (B) the Secretary of Defense certifies that there is no intention insofar as can reasonably be foreseen to curtail substantially the personnel assigned or to be assigned to such installation. The insurance of a mortgage pursuant to this subsection shall be the obligation of the Special Risk Insurance Fund.

(2) The Secretary is authorized (A) to establish such premiums and other charges as may be necessary to assure that the mortgage insurance program pursuant to this subsection is made available on a basis which, in the Secretary's judgment, is designed to be actuarially sound and likely to maintain the fiscal integrity of such program, and (B) to prescribe such terms and conditions relating to insurance pursuant to this subsection as may be found by the Secretary to be necessary and appropriate, and which are to the maximum extent possible, consistent with provisions otherwise applicable to mortgage insurance and payment of insurance benefits.

(3) The Secretary shall undertake an annual assessment of the risks associated with each of the insurance programs comprising the Special Risk Insurance Fund, and shall present findings from such review to the Congress in the FHA Annual Management Report.

MODIFICATIONS IN TERMS OF MORTGAGES COVERING MULTIFAMILY PROJECTS

SEC. 239. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-4] The Secretary shall not consent to any request for an extension of the time for curing a default under any mortgage covering multifamily housing, as defined in the regulations of the Secretary, or for a modification of the terms of such mortgage, except in conformity with regulations prescribed by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of this section. Such regulations shall require, as a condition to the granting of any such request, that, during the period of such extension or modification, any part of the rents or other funds derived by the mortgagor from the property covered by the mortgage which is not required to meet actual and necessary expenses arising in connection with the operation of such property, including amortization charges under the mortgage, be held in trust by the mortgagor and distributed only with the consent of the Secretary; except that the Secretary may provide for the granting of consent to any request for an extension of the time for curing a default under any mortgage covering multifamily housing, or for a modification of the terms of such mortgage, without regard to the foregoing requirement, in any case or class of cases in which an exemption from such requirement does not (as determined by the Secretary) jeopardize the interests of the United States.

PURCHASE OF FEE SIMPLE TITLE FROM LESSORS

SEC. 240. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-5] (a) The Secretary is authorized, upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to make commitments to insure and to insure loans made by financial institutions for the purpose of financing purchases by homeowners of the fee simple title to property on which their homes are located.

(b) As used in this section—

(1) the term “financial institution” means a lender approved by the Secretary as eligible for insurance under section 2 or a mortgagee approved under section 203(b)(1); and

(2) the term “homeowner” means a lessee under a long-term ground lease.

(c) To be eligible for insurance under this section, a loan shall—

(1) relate to property on which there is located a dwelling designed principally for a one-, two-, three-, or four-family residence;

(2) not exceed the cost of purchasing the fee simple title, or \$10,000 (\$30,000, if the property is located in Hawaii) per family unit, whichever is the lesser;

(3) be limited to an amount which when added to any outstanding indebtedness related to the property (as determined by the Secretary) creates a total outstanding indebtedness which does not exceed the applicable mortgage limit prescribed in section 203(b);

(4) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee;

(5) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary, but not to exceed twenty years from the beginning of amortization of the loan; and

(6) comply with such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(d) The provisions of paragraphs (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), and (10) of section 220(h) shall be applicable to loans insured under this section and, as applied to loans insured under this section, references in those paragraphs to “home improvement loans” and “this subsection” shall be construed to refer to loans under this section.

SUPPLEMENTAL LOANS FOR MULTIFAMILY PROJECTS

SEC. 241. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-6] (a) With respect to a multifamily project, hospital, or group practice facility covered by a mortgage insured under any section or title of this Act or covered by a mortgage held by the Secretary, the Secretary is authorized, upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to make commitments to insure, and to insure, supplemental loans (including advances during construction or improvement) made by financial institutions approved by the Secretary. As used in this section, “supplemental loan” means a loan, advance of credit, or purchase of an obligation representing a loan or advance of credit made for the purpose of financing improvements or additions to such project, hospital, or facility: *Provided*, That a loan involving a nursing home, hospital, or a group practice facility may also be made for

the purpose of financing equipment to be used in the operation of such nursing home, hospital, or facility.

(b) To be eligible for insurance under this section, a supplemental loan shall—

(1) be limited to 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the value of such improvements, additions, and equipment, except that such amount when added to the outstanding balance of the mortgage covering the project or facility, shall not exceed the maximum mortgage amount insurable under the section or title pursuant to which the mortgage covering such project or facility is insured or an amount acceptable to the Secretary;

(2) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary;

(3) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the borrower and the financial institution;

(4) be secured in such manner as the Secretary may require;

(5) be governed by the labor standards provisions of section 212 that are applicable to the section or title pursuant to which the mortgage covering the project or facility is insured or pursuant to which the original mortgage covering the project or facility was insured; and

(6) contain such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(c) The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (n) of section 207 shall be applicable to loans insured under this section, except that (1) all references to the term “mortgage” shall be construed to refer to the term “loan” as used in this section, (2) loans involving projects covered by a mortgage insured under section 213 that is the obligation of the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund shall be insured under and shall be the obligation of such fund, and (3) loans involving projects covered by a mortgage insured under section 236 shall be insured under and shall be the obligation of the Special Risk Insurance Fund.

(d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Secretary may insure a loan for improvements or additions to a multifamily housing project, or a group practice or medical practice facility or hospital or other health facility approved by the Secretary, which is not covered by a mortgage insured under this Act, if he finds that such a loan would assist in preserving, expanding, or improving housing opportunities, or in providing protection against fire or other hazards. Such loans shall have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary and shall meet such other conditions as the Secretary may prescribe. In no event shall such a loan be insured if it is for an amount in excess of the maximum amount which could be approved if the outstanding indebtedness, if any, covering the property were a mortgage insured under this Act. At any sale under foreclosure of a mortgage on a project or facility which is not insured under this Act but which is senior to a loan assigned to the Secretary pursuant to subsection (c), the Secretary is authorized to bid, in addition to amounts authorized under section 207(k), any sum up to but not in excess of the total unpaid indebtedness secured by such senior mortgage, plus taxes, insurance, foreclosure costs, fees, and other expenses. In the event that, pursuant to subsection (c), the

Secretary acquires title to, or is assigned, a loan covering a project or facility which is subject to a mortgage which is not insured under this Act, the Secretary is authorized to make payments from the General Insurance Fund on the debt secured by such mortgage, and to take such other steps as the Secretary may deem appropriate to preserve or protect the Secretary's interest in the project or facility.

(e)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary may insure a loan for purchasing and installing energy conserving improvements (as defined in subparagraph (2) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act), for purchasing and installing a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act), and for purchasing or installing (or both) individual utility meters in a multifamily housing project if such meters are purchased or installed in connection with other energy conserving improvements or with a solar energy system or the project meets minimum standards of energy conservation established by the Secretary, without regard to whether the project is covered by a mortgage under this Act.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b), a loan insured under this subsection shall—

(A) not exceed an amount which the Secretary determines is necessary for the purchase and installation of individual utility meters plus an amount which the Secretary deems appropriate taking into account amounts which will be saved in operation costs over the period of repayment of the loan by reducing the energy requirements of the project as a result of the installation of energy conserving improvements or a solar energy system therein;

(B) be insured for 90 percent of any loss incurred by the person holding the note for the loan; except that, for cooperative multifamily projects receiving assistance under section 236 or financed with a below market interest rate mortgage insured under section 221(d)(3) of this Act, 100 percent of any such loss may be insured;

(C) bear an interest rate not to exceed an amount which the Secretary determines, after consulting with the Secretary of Energy, to be necessary to meet market demands;

(D) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary;

(E) be insured pursuant to a premium rate established on a sound actuarial basis to the extent practicable;

(F) be secured in such a manner as the Secretary may require;

(G) be an acceptable risk in that energy conservation or solar energy benefits to be derived outweigh the risks of possible loss to the Federal Government; and

(H) contain such other terms, conditions, and restrictions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(3) The provisions of subsection (c) shall apply to loans insured under this subsection.

(4) The Secretary shall provide that any person obligated on the note for any loan insured under this section be regulated or restricted, until the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance, by the Secretary as to rents or sales, charges,

capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operations of the multifamily project to such an extent and in such manner as to provide reasonable rentals to tenants and a reasonable return on the investment.

[(f) [Repealed.]]

(g)(1) When underwriting a rehabilitation loan under this section in connection with eligible multifamily housing, the Secretary may assume that any rental assistance provided for purposes of servicing the additional debt will be extended for the term of the rehabilitation loan. The Secretary shall exercise prudent underwriting practices in insuring rehabilitation loans under this section. For purposes of this subsection, the term “eligible multifamily housing” means any housing financed by a loan or mortgage that is—

(A) insured or held by the Secretary under section 221(d)(3) of the National Housing Act and assisted under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 or section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(B) insured or held by the Secretary and bears interest at a rate determined under the proviso of section 221(d)(5) of the National Housing Act; or

(C) insured, assisted or held by the Secretary under section 236 of the National Housing Act.

(2) A mortgagee approved by the Secretary may not withhold consent to a rehabilitation loan insured in connection with eligible multifamily housing on which that mortgagee holds a mortgage.

MORTGAGE INSURANCE FOR HOSPITALS

SEC. 242. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–7] (a) The purpose of this section is to assist the provision of urgently needed hospitals for the care and treatment of persons who are acutely ill or who otherwise require medical care and related services of the kind customarily furnished only (or most effectively) by hospitals. Such assistance shall be provided regardless of the amount of public financial or other support a hospital may receive, and the Secretary shall neither require additional security or collateral to guarantee such support, nor impose more stringent eligibility or other requirements on publicly owned or supported hospitals.

(b) For the purposes of this section—

(1) the term “hospital” means a facility—

(A) which provides community service for inpatient medical care of the sick or injured (including obstetrical care);

(B) not more than 50 per centum of the total patient days of which during any year are customarily assignable to the categories of chronic convalescent and rest, drug and alcoholic, epileptic, mentally deficient, mental, nervous and mental, and tuberculosis, unless the facility is a critical access hospital (as that term is defined in section 1861(mm)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(mm)(1))); and

(C) which is a public facility, proprietary facility, or facility of a private nonprofit corporation or association, li-

censed or regulated by the State (or, if there is no State law providing for such licensing or regulation by the State, by the municipality or other political subdivision in which the facility is located); and

(2) the terms “mortgage” and “mortgagor” shall have the meanings respectfully set forth in section 207(a) of this Act.

(c) The Secretary is authorized to insure any mortgage (including advances on such mortgage during construction) in accordance with the provisions of this section upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and to make commitments for insurance of such mortgage prior to the date of its execution or disbursement thereon. No mortgage insurance premium shall be charged with respect to the amount of principal and interest guaranteed by the Department of Health and Human Services under title VII of the Public Health Service Act.

(d) In order to carry out the purpose of this section, the Secretary is authorized to insure any mortgage which covers a new or rehabilitated hospital, including equipment to be used in its operation, subject to the following conditions:

(1)⁸⁷ The mortgage shall be executed by a mortgagor approved by the Secretary. The Secretary may in his discretion require any such mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to charges and methods of financing, and, in addition thereto, if the mortgagor is a corporate entity, as to capital structure and rate of return. As an aid to the regulation or restriction of any mortgagor with respect to any of the foregoing matters, the Secretary may make such contracts with and acquire for not to exceed \$100 such stock or interest in such mortgagor as he may deem necessary. Any stock or interest so purchased shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund, and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance.

(2)⁸⁸ The mortgage shall involve a principal obligation in the amount requested by the mortgagor if such amount does not exceed 90 percent of the estimated replacement cost of the property or project including—

(A) equipment to be used in the operation of the hospital, when the proposed improvements are completed and the equipment is installed; and

(B) a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11) (A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95–619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure.

(3)⁸⁸ The mortgage shall—

(A) provide for complete amortization by periodic payments within such terms as the Secretary shall prescribe; and

(B) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee.

⁸⁷ Indented so in law.

⁸⁸ Indented so in law.

(4)⁸⁸(A) The Secretary shall require satisfactory evidence that the hospital will be located in a State or political subdivision of a State with reasonable minimum standards of licensure and methods of operation for hospitals and satisfactory assurance that such standards will be applied and enforced with respect to the hospital.

(B) The Secretary shall establish the means for determining need and feasibility for the hospital, if the State does not have an official procedure for determining need for hospitals. If the State has an official procedure for determining need for hospitals, the Secretary shall require that such procedure be followed before the application for insurance is submitted, and the application shall document that need has also been established under that procedure.

(5)⁸⁸ The Secretary shall not insure any mortgage or approve any modification of an existing mortgage insured pursuant to this section or section 223(f) if such insurance or modification is to be made in connection with a guarantee, as authorized pursuant to section 306, of a trust certificate or other security which is exempt from Federal taxation or which is to be used to collateralize obligations which are so exempt, except that the Secretary shall not refuse to insure such a mortgage or approve such a modification solely on the basis that such insurance or modification is to be made in connection with a guarantee, as authorized pursuant to section 306, of a trust certificate or other security which is exempt from Federal taxation or which is to be used to collateralize obligations which are so exempt if—

(A) a written application for such insurance or modification submitted at the express direction of the hospital has been submitted to the appropriate office of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare prior to March 29, 1979; or

(B) in the case of a nonprofit mortgagor which is seeking refinancing or modification of an existing mortgage insured pursuant to this section or section 223(f), the mortgagor (i) had engaged an investment banker for the purpose of obtaining such refinancing or modification, or had undertaken or arranged for the undertaking of a market or feasibility study with respect to the advisability of obtaining such refinancing or modification, and had made written notification of its interest in such refinancing or modification to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare or the Department of Housing and Urban Development prior to June 7, 1979; and (ii) receives from the programs established under titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act a percentage of its total revenue which is greater than 125 per centum of the national average for hospitals which derive revenue from such titles.

This paragraph shall not limit the authority of the Secretary to approve a mortgage increase on any mortgage eligible for insurance under this paragraph at any time prior to final endorsement of the loan for insurance; except that such mortgage increase may not be approved for the cost of constructing any improvements not included in the original plans and specifications approved by the Department of Health and Human Services unless approved by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(6)⁸⁹ To the extent that a private nonprofit or public facility mortgagor is required by the Secretary to provide cash equity in excess of the amount of the mortgage to complete the project, the mortgagor shall be entitled, at the option of the mortgagee, to fund the excess with a letter of credit. In such event, mortgage proceeds may be advanced to the mortgagor prior to any demand being made on the letter of credit.

(e) The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property or project from the lien of any mortgage insured under this section upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

(f) The activities and functions provided for in this section shall be carried out by the agencies involved so as to encourage programs that undertake responsibility to provide comprehensive health care, including outpatient and preventive care, as well as hospitalization, to a defined population, and, in the case of public hospitals, to encourage programs that are undertaken to provide essential health care services to all residents of a community regardless of ability to pay. The Secretary shall begin immediately to process applications of public facilities for mortgage insurance under this section in accordance with regulations, guidelines, and procedures applicable to facilities of private nonprofit corporations and associations.

(g)(1) Notwithstanding any of the other provisions of this title, the Secretary may insure under this section a mortgage which provides permanent financing or refinancing of existing mortgage indebtedness in the case of a hospital whose permanent financing is presently lacking, if the construction of such hospital was completed between January 1, 1966, and the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) The aggregate principal balance of all mortgages insured under paragraph (1) and outstanding at any one time shall not exceed \$20,000,000.

(h) The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (n) of section 207 shall apply to mortgages insured under this section and all references therein to section 207 shall be deemed to refer to this section.

(i) TERMINATION OF EXEMPTION FOR CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The exemption for critical access hospitals under subsection (b)(1)(B) shall have no effect after July 31, 2016.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 3 years after July 31, 2003, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress detailing the effects of the exemption of critical access hospitals from the provisions of subsection (b)(1)(B) on—

(A) the provision of mortgage insurance to hospitals under this section; and

(B) the General Insurance Fund established under section 519.

⁸⁹ Indented so in law.

HOMEOWNERSHIP FOR MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES

SEC. 243. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-8] (a) Whenever he determines such action to be necessary in furtherance of the purposes set forth in section 501 of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970, the Secretary is authorized to make, and to contract to make, periodic assistance payments on behalf of families of middle income. The assistance shall be accomplished through interest subsidy payments to the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (hereinafter referred to as “the investor”) with respect to mortgages meeting the special requirements specified in this section and made after the date of enactment of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970.

(b) To qualify for assistance payments a middle-income family shall be a mortgagor under a mortgage which is (1) insured under subsection (j) of this section, (2) guaranteed under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, or (3) a conventional mortgage meeting the requirements of subsection (j)(3) of this section. In addition to the foregoing requirement, the Secretary may require that the mortgagor have an income, at the time of acquisition of the property, of not more than the median income for the area in which the property is located, as determined by the Secretary, with appropriate adjustments for smaller and larger families.

(c) The interest subsidy payments authorized by this section shall cease when (1) the mortgagor no longer occupies the property which secures the mortgage, (2) the mortgages are no longer held by the investor, or (3) the rate of interest paid by the mortgagor reaches the rate of interest specified on the mortgage.

(d)(1) Interest subsidy payments shall be on mortgages on which the mortgagor makes monthly payments towards principal and interest equal to an amount which would be required if the mortgage bore an effective interest rate of 7 per centum per annum, including any discounts or charges in the nature of points or otherwise (but not including premiums, if any, for mortgage insurance) or such higher rate (not to exceed the rate specified in the mortgage), which the mortgagor could pay by applying at least 20 per centum of his income towards homeownership expenses. As used in this subsection, the term “monthly homeownership expense” includes the monthly payment for principal, interest, mortgage insurance premium, insurance, and taxes due under the mortgage.

(2) In addition to the mortgages eligible for assistance under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Secretary is authorized to make periodic assistance payments on behalf of cooperative members of middle income. Such assistance payments shall be accomplished through interest subsidy payments to the investor with respect to mortgages insured (subsequent to the effective date of this section) under section 213 which are executed by cooperatives, the membership in which is limited to middle-income families. For purposes of this paragraph—

(A) the term “mortgagor”, when used in subsection (b) in the case of a mortgage covering a cooperative housing project, means a member of the cooperative;

(B) the term “acquisition of the property”, when used in subsection (b), means the family’s application for a dwelling unit; and

(C) in the case of a cooperative mortgagor, subsection (c) shall not apply and the interest subsidy payments shall cease when the mortgage is no longer held by the investor or the cooperative fails to limit membership to families whose incomes at the time of their application for a dwelling unit meets such requirements as are laid down by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (b).

(e) The interest subsidy payments shall be in an amount equal to the difference, as determined by the Secretary, between the total amount of interest per calendar quarter received by the investor on mortgages assisted under this section and purchased by it and the total amount of interest which the investor would have received if the yield on such mortgages was equal to the sum of (1) the average costs (expressed as an annual percentage rate) to it of all borrowed funds outstanding in the immediately preceding calendar quarter, and (2) such per centum per annum as will provide for administrative and other expenses of the investor and a reasonable economic return, as determined by the Secretary to be necessary and appropriate taking into account the purpose of this section to provide additional mortgage credit at reasonable rates of interest to middle-income families.

(f) Procedures shall be adopted by the Secretary for recertifications of the mortgagor’s income at intervals of two years (or at shorter intervals where the Secretary deems it desirable) for the purpose of adjusting the amount of the mortgagor’s payments pursuant to subsection (d).

(g) The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as he deems necessary to assure that the sales price of, or other consideration paid in connection with the purchase by a homeowner of the property with respect to which assistance payments are to be made is not increased above the appraised value on which the maximum mortgage which the Secretary will insure is computed.

(h)(1) There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to enable the Secretary to make interest subsidy payments under contracts entered into under this section. The aggregate amount of contracts to make such payments shall not exceed amounts approved in appropriation Acts, and payments pursuant to such contracts shall not exceed \$105,000,000 during the first year of such contracts prior to July 1, 1971, which amount shall be increased by an additional \$105,000,000 during the first year of an additional number of such contracts on July 1 of each of the years 1971 and 1972.

(2) No interest subsidy payments under this section shall be made after June 30, 1973, except pursuant to contracts entered into on or before such date.

(i) In determining the income of any family for the purposes of this section, income from all sources of each member of the family in the household shall be included, except that the Secretary shall exclude income earned by any minor person.

(j)(1) The Secretary is authorized upon application by the mortgagee, to insure a mortgage executed by a mortgagor who meets

the eligibility requirements for assistance payments prescribed by the Secretary under subsection (b). Commitments for the insurance of such mortgages may be issued by the Secretary prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(2) To be eligible for insurance under this subsection, a mortgage shall meet the requirements of section 221(d)(2) or 234(c), except as such requirements are modified by this subsection: *Provided, however,* That in the discretion of the Secretary 25 per centum of the authority conferred by this section and subject to all the terms thereof may be used for mortgages on existing housing.

(3) A mortgage to be insured under this section shall—

(i)⁹⁰ involve a single-family dwelling which has been approved by the Secretary prior to the beginning of construction, or a one-family unit in a condominium project (together with an undivided interest in the common areas and facilities serving the project) which is released from a multifamily project, the construction of which has been completed within two years prior to the filing of the application for assistance payments with respect to such family unit and the unit shall have had no previous occupant other than the mortgagor;

(ii)⁹¹ involve a single-family dwelling whose appraised value, as determined by the Secretary, is not in excess of \$20,000 (which amount may be increased by not more than 50 per centum in any geographical area where the Secretary authorizes an increase on the basis of a finding that the cost level so requires); and

(iii)⁹² be executed by a mortgagor who shall have paid in cash or its equivalent on account of the property (A) 3 per centum of the first \$15,000 of the appraised value of the property, (B) 10 per centum of such value in excess of \$15,000 but not in excess of \$25,000, and (C) 20 per centum of such value in excess of \$25,000.

CO-INSURANCE

SEC. 244. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-9] (a) In addition to providing insurance as otherwise authorized under this Act, and not withstanding any other provision of this Act inconsistent with this section, the Secretary, upon request of any mortgagee and for such mortgage insurance premium as he may prescribe (which premium, or other charges to be paid by the mortgagor, shall not exceed the premium, or other charges, that would otherwise be applicable), may insure and make a commitment to insure under any provision of this title any mortgage, advance, or loan otherwise eligible under such provision, pursuant to a co-insurance contract providing that the mortgagee will—

(1) assume a percentage of any loss on the insured mortgage, advance, or loan in direct proportion to the amount of the co-insurance, which co-insurance shall not be less than 10 per

⁹⁰ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (A).

⁹¹ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (B).

⁹² So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (C).

centum, subject to any reasonable limit or limits on the liability of the mortgagee that may be specified in the event of unusual or catastrophic losses that may be incurred by any one mortgagee; and

(2) carry out (under a delegation or otherwise and with or without compensation but subject to audit, exception, or review requirements) such credit approval, appraisal, inspection, commitment, property disposition, or other functions as the Secretary, pursuant to regulations, shall approve as consistent with the purposes of this Act.

Any contract of co-insurance under this section shall contain such provisions relating to the sharing of premiums on a sound actuarial basis, establishment of mortgage reserves, manner of calculating insurance benefits, conditions with respect to foreclosure, handling and disposition of property prior to claim or settlement, rights of assignees (which may elect not to be subject to the loss sharing provisions), and other similar matters as the Secretary may prescribe pursuant to regulations. A mortgagee which enters into a contract of co-insurance under this section shall not by reason of such contract, or its adherence to such contract or applicable regulations of the Secretary, including provisions relating to the retention of risks in the event of sale or assignment of a mortgage, be made subject to any State law regulating the business of insurance.

(b) No insurance shall be granted pursuant to this section with respect to dwellings or projects approved for insurance prior to the beginning of construction unless the inspection of such construction is conducted in accordance with at least the minimum standards and criteria used with respect to dwellings or projects approved for mortgage insurance pursuant to other provisions of this title.

[(c) [Repealed.]]

[(d) [Repealed.]]

(e) The Secretary shall not withdraw, deny, or delay insurance otherwise authorized under any other provision of this Act by reason of the availability of insurance pursuant to this section. The Secretary shall exercise his authority under this section only to the extent that he finds that the continued exercise of such authority will not adversely affect the flow of mortgage credit to older and declining neighborhoods and to the purchasers of older and lower cost housing.

(f)(1) Where the mortgage covers a multifamily housing project, the co-insurance contract may provide that the mortgagee assume (i) the full amount of any loss on the insured mortgage up to an amount equal to a fixed percentage of the outstanding principal balance of the mortgage at the time of claim for insurance benefits, or (ii) the full amount of any losses on insured mortgages in a portfolio of mortgages approved by the Secretary up to an amount equal to a fixed percentage of the outstanding principal balance of all mortgages in such portfolio at the time of claim for insurance benefits on a mortgage in the portfolio, plus a share of any loss in excess of the amount under clause (i) or (ii), whichever is applicable.

(2) The Secretary may make loans, from the applicable insurance fund, to public housing agencies in connection with mortgages

which have been insured pursuant to this subsection and which are in default.

(3) The Secretary may insure and make a commitment to insure in connection with a co-insurance contract pursuant to this subsection (A) a mortgage on a project assisted under the second proviso in the first sentence of section 236(b) of this Act, and (B) a mortgage or advance on a mortgage made to a public housing agency on a project under construction which is not approved for insurance prior to construction.

(4) As used in this subsection, the term “public housing agency” has the meaning given such term in section 3(b)(6) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary may include in the determination of replacement cost of a project to be covered by a mortgage made to a public housing agency and insured pursuant to this subsection, such reserves and development costs, not to exceed 5 per centum of the amount otherwise allowable, as may be established or authorized by the public housing agency consistent with such agency’s procedures and underwriting standards.

(h)⁹³ Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in the case of a mortgage insured under section 223(f) secured by property which is to be rehabilitated or developed under section 17 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, such co-insurance may include provisions that—

(1) insurance benefits shall equal the sum of (A) 90 per centum of the mortgage on the date of institution of foreclosure proceedings (or on the date of acquisition of the property otherwise after default), and (B) 90 per centum of interest arrears on the date benefits are paid;

(2) the mortgagee shall remit to the Secretary, for credit to the General Insurance Fund, 90 per centum of any proceeds of the property, including sale proceeds, net of the mortgagee’s actual and reasonable costs related to the property and the enforcement of security;

(3) payment of such benefits shall be made in cash unless the mortgagee submits a written request for debenture payment; and

(4) the underwriter of co-insurance may reinsure 10 per centum of the mortgage amount with a private mortgage insurance company or with a State mortgage insurance agency.

(i) Any mortgagee which enters into a contract of co-insurance under this section shall have the authority to assign its interest in any note or mortgage subject to a contract of co-insurance to a warehouse bank or other financial institution which provides interim funding for a loan co-insured under this section, and to retain the co-insurance risk of such note or mortgage, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary shall prescribe.

(i)⁹⁴ The Secretary shall, by January 15 and July 15 of each year (1) review the adequacy of capital and other requirements for mortgagees under this section, (2) assess the compliance by mort-

⁹³ So in law. There is no subsection (g).

⁹⁴ So in law.

gagees with such requirements, and (3) make such adjustment to such requirements as the Secretary, after providing opportunity for hearing, determines to be appropriate to improve the long-term financial soundness of the Federal Housing Administration funds. Such requirements shall include the minimum capital or net worth of mortgagees; the ratio that mortgagees shall maintain between the mortgagee's capital and the volume of mortgages co-insured by such mortgagee; and such other requirements as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to ensure the long-term financial soundness of the Federal Housing Administration funds. The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives⁹⁵ a report on the review and assessment under the previous sentence, and an explanation of the Secretary's reasons for making any adjustment in requirements authorized under this section.

【245. 【Repealed.】

SALE OF ACQUIRED PROPERTY TO COOPERATIVES

SEC. 246. 【12 U.S.C. 1715z-11】 In any case which the Secretary sells a multifamily housing project acquired as a result of a default on a mortgage which was insured under this Act to a cooperative which will operate it on a nonprofit basis and restrict permanent occupancy of its dwellings to members, or to a nonprofit corporation which operates as a consumer cooperative as defined by the Secretary, the Secretary may accept a purchase money mortgage, or upon application of the mortgagee, insure a mortgage under this section upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines are reasonable and appropriate, in a principal amount equal to the value of the property at the time of purchase, which value shall be based upon a mortgage amount on which the debt service can be met from the income of property when operated on a nonprofit basis after payment of all operating expenses, taxes, and required reserves; except that the Secretary may add to the mortgage amount an amount not greater than the amount of prepaid expenses and costs involved in achieving cooperative ownership, or make such other provisions for payment of such expenses and costs as the Secretary deems reasonable and appropriate. Prior to such disposition of a project, funds may be expended by the Secretary for necessary repairs and improvements.

SINGLE-FAMILY MORTGAGE INSURANCE ON HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

SEC. 247. 【12 U.S.C. 1715z-12】 (a) The Secretary, subject to such conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, may insure under any provision of this title that authorizes such insurance, a mortgage covering a property upon which there is located a one- to four-

⁹⁵Section 1(a) of Public Law 104-14, 109 Stat. 186, provides, in part, that "any reference in any provision of law enacted before January 4, 1995, to... the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives". However, H. Res. 5, 107th Congress, agreed to on January 3, 2001, abolished the Committee on Banking and Financial Services and established the Committee on Financial Services, which has jurisdiction over many of the areas previously under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

family residence, without regard to any limitation in this Act relating to marketability of title or any other limitation in this Act that the Secretary determines is contrary to promoting the availability of such insurance on Hawaiian home lands, if—

(1) the mortgage is executed by a native Hawaiian on property located within Hawaiian home lands covered under a homestead lease issued under section 207(a) of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, or under the corresponding provision of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii adopted under section 4 of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union”, approved March 28, 1959 (73 Stat. 5);

(2) the property will be used as the principal residence of the mortgagor; and

(3) the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands of the State of Hawaii (A) is a comortgagor; (B) guarantees to reimburse the Secretary for any mortgage insurance claim paid in connection with a property on Hawaiian home lands; or (C) offers other security acceptable to the Secretary.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary may, with respect to mortgages eligible for insurance under subsection (a), insure and make commitments to insure advances made during construction if the Secretary determines that the proposed construction is otherwise acceptable and that no feasible financing alternative is available.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the insurance of a mortgage using the authority contained in this section shall be the obligation of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund. The mortgagee shall be eligible to receive the benefits of insurance as provided in section 204 with respect to mortgages insured pursuant to this section, except that all references in section 204 to section 203 shall be construed to refer to the section under which the mortgage is insured.

(d) For purposes of this section:

(1) **NATIVE HAWAIIAN.**—The term “native Hawaiian” means any descendant of not less than one-half part of the blood of the races inhabiting the Hawaiian Islands before January 1, 1778, or, in the case of an individual who is awarded an interest in a lease of Hawaiian home lands through transfer or succession, such lower percentage as may be established for such transfer or succession under section 208 or 209 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 (42 Stat. 111), or under the corresponding provision of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii adopted under section 4 of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union”, approved March 18, 1959 (73 Stat. 5).

(2) **HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.**—The term “Hawaiian home lands” means all lands given the status of Hawaiian home lands under section 204 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 (42 Stat. 110), or under the corresponding provision of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii adopted under section 4 of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union”, approved March 18, 1959 (73 Stat. 5).

(e) CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXISTING LESSEES.—Possession of a lease of Hawaiian home lands issued under section 207(a) of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 (42 Stat. 110), shall be sufficient to certify eligibility to receive a mortgage under this section.

SINGLE FAMILY MORTGAGE INSURANCE ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS

SEC. 248. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–13] (a) The Secretary, subject to such special conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, may insure under any provision of this title that authorizes such insurance, a mortgage covering a property upon which there is located a one- to four-family residence, without regard to any limitation in this Act relating to marketability of title or any other limitation in this Act that the Secretary determines is contrary to promoting the availability of such insurance on Indian reservations if the mortgage (1) is executed by an Indian tribe and the property is located on trust or otherwise restricted land; or (2) is executed by a member of an Indian tribe who will use the property as a principal residence and the property is on trust or otherwise restricted land.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, with respect to mortgages covering a property upon which there is located a one- to four-family residence—

(1) the Secretary may insure and make commitments to insure under this title pursuant to this section advances made during construction where the Secretary determines that the proposed construction is otherwise acceptable and meets an applicable tribal or national model building code, and that no feasible financing alternative is available;

(2) the applicable percentage limitation on the amount of the principal obligation of a mortgage based on the appraised value or replacement cost, as appropriate, of a one- to four-family owner-occupied residence contained in this title shall apply in the case of all mortgages insured pursuant to this section without regard to whether the residences are owner-occupied where the residences are owned by the tribe; and

(3)(A) the Secretary may require an Indian tribe, only as a condition of insurance made under this title pursuant to this section, to pledge income from tribal resources or income from tribal assets not subject to a restriction by the Secretary of the Interior or pledge grants under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 or any other Federal grant program administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to be used to reimburse the Secretary for any mortgage insurance claims paid in connection with residences insured pursuant to this section; or

(B) in the case of an individual Indian mortgagor, the Secretary may require a pledge of his or her share of distributed income from tribal resources or income from tribal assets, excluding any Federal grants received by the tribe.

(c) The Secretary may not refuse to insure a mortgage under this section to an individual home purchaser because there is no distributed tribal or trust fund income attributable to that purchaser.

(d) Before making any commitment to insure a mortgage under this section with respect to property located on trust or otherwise restricted land, the Secretary shall require a showing by the tribe that it has adopted eviction procedures to be used in the event of a default.

(e) A mortgage insured under this section may be assumed, subject to credit approval by the lender and the consent of the tribe to an assumption of the existing lease or the grant of a new lease, without an adjustment of the interest rate. Any other sale of a property subject to a mortgage insured under this section may be made only if a new lease is granted, except that a sale following a foreclosure may be accompanied by an assumption of the lease with the consent of the tribe.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the insurance of a mortgage using the authority contained in this section shall be the obligation of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund. The mortgagee shall be eligible to receive the benefits of insurance as provided in section 204 with respect to mortgages insured pursuant to this section, except that all references in section 204 to section 203 shall be construed to refer to the section under which the mortgage is insured.

(g)(1) The Secretary shall make information regarding the status and payment history of loans insured under this section available to local credit bureaus and prospective creditors. Prior to accepting assignment of a mortgage, the Secretary shall require mortgagees to submit documentation that mortgagors have been counseled in a face-to-face interview, informed of the provisions of this subsection or other available assistance, and provided with the names and addresses of officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to whom further communications shall be addressed.

(2) Notwithstanding the requirement for conveyance of title under section 204, a mortgagee under this section shall be entitled to receive the benefit of insurance under this section in the case of a mortgage which is more than 90 days in default upon conveyance of the lease agreement and the mortgage documents.

(3) In the event that any default is cured, the Secretary shall seek to reinstate the loan with the mortgagee or another mortgagee. For purposes of this paragraph, the Secretary may provide appropriate financial incentives to reinstate the loan commensurate with sound management of the General Insurance Fund.

(4) If the Secretary determines that a mortgagor is not making a good-faith effort to cure a default, and that trust fund or tribal income is available under subsection (b)(3)(B), the Secretary shall commence proceedings for the garnishment of the mortgagor's distributed share of tribal or trust fund income in order to collect loan payments that are past due. Proceedings under this paragraph may be instituted in a tribal court, court of competent jurisdiction designated by the tribe, or Federal district court.

(5) If the Secretary determines such action is necessary to protect the General Insurance Fund from undue loss, the Secretary may initiate foreclosure proceedings with respect to any mortgage acquired under this subsection. Such proceeding may take place in a tribal court, a court of competent jurisdiction, or Federal district

court. Any such court shall have jurisdiction to convey to the Secretary the remaining life of a lease on the real property and to order eviction of the delinquent mortgagor.

(h) In the administration of this section, the Secretary shall establish a premium charge for insurance that will be sufficient to cover the full costs of the mortgage insurance program under this section, except that such charge may not exceed 3 percent per annum of the principal amount of the mortgage outstanding at any time. Not later than September 30, 1984, the Secretary shall determine and report to the Congress on the feasibility of eliminating any excess amount of the premium under this section over the premium under section 203. In the event such premiums are not sufficient to cover the full costs of the mortgage insurance program under this section, the Secretary shall make recommendations to the Congress about changes to the program.

(i) For purposes of this section:

(1) The term “Indian tribe” means any Indian or Alaska native tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians or Alaska natives recognized as eligible for the services provided to Indians or Alaska natives by the Secretary of the Interior because of its status as such an entity, or that was an eligible recipient under chapter 67 of title 31, United States Code, prior to the repeal of such chapter.

(2) The term “trust or otherwise restricted land” means (A) that area of land, as defined by the Secretary of the Interior, over which an Indian tribe is recognized by the United States as having governmental jurisdiction; (B) land held in trust for the benefit of any Indian tribe or individual or held by any Indian tribe or individual subject to a restriction by the United States against alienation; or (C) land acquired by Alaska natives under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act or any other land acquired by Alaska natives pursuant to statute by virtue of their unique status as Alaska natives.

RISK-SHARING DEMONSTRATION

SEC. 249. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–14] (a) The purpose of this section is to authorize a demonstration mortgage risk-sharing program designed to test the feasibility of entering into risk-sharing contracts with private mortgage insurers and with insured community development financial institutions in order to reduce Government risk and administrative costs, and to speed mortgage processing. The Secretary shall limit the demonstration under this section to not more than four administrative regions of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and shall assure that the program is in the financial interest of the Government and will not result in loss of employment by any employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development before the expiration of the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act of 2000.⁹⁶ The aggregate number of mortgages insured under this section in any administrative region of the Department of Housing and Urban Development in any fiscal year may not exceed 20 percent of the aggregate number of mort-

⁹⁶The date of enactment was December 21, 2000.

gages and loans insured by the Secretary under this title in such region during the preceding fiscal year.⁹⁷

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act inconsistent with this section, the Secretary is authorized, in providing mortgage insurance with respect to one- to four-family dwellings under sections 203(b), 234, and 245, to enter into risk-sharing contracts with private mortgage insurance companies which have been determined to be qualified insurers under section 302(b)(2)(C) and with insured community development financial institutions. Such contracts shall require private mortgage insurance companies and insured community development financial institutions to—

(1) assume a secondary percentage of loss on any mortgage insured pursuant to section 203(b), 234, or 245 covering a one- to four-family dwelling, which percentage of loss shall be set forth in the risk-sharing contract, with the first percentage of loss to be borne by the Secretary;

(2) perform or delegate underwriting, credit approval, appraisal, inspection, commitment, claims processing, property disposition, or other functions as the Secretary shall approve as consistent with the purposes of this section and shall set forth in the risk-sharing contract.

(c) Any contract for risk-sharing under this section shall contain such provisions relating to the sharing of premiums received by the Secretary with a private mortgage insurer or insured community development financial institution on a sound actuarial basis, establishment of loss reserves, manner of calculating claims on such risk-sharing contract, conditions with respect to foreclosure, handling and disposition of property prior to claim or settlement, rights of assignees, and other similar matters as the Secretary may prescribe pursuant to regulations. Pursuant to a contract under this section, a private mortgage insurance company or insured community development financial institution shall endorse loans for risk-sharing and take such other actions on behalf of the Secretary and in the Secretary's name as the Secretary may authorize.

(d) The Secretary shall require any private mortgage insurance company or insured community development financial institution participating in the program under this section to provide risk-sharing for those mortgages offered by the Secretary for inclusion in the program.

(e) **INSURED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—For purposes of this section, the term “insured community development financial institution” means a community development financial institution, as such term is defined in section 103 of Reigle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C. 4702) that is an insured depository institution (as such term is defined in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813)) or an insured credit union (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1752)).

LIMITATION ON PREPAYMENT OF MORTGAGES ON MULTIFAMILY
RENTAL HOUSING

SEC. 250. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–15] (a) During any period in which an owner of a multifamily rental housing project is required to obtain the approval of the Secretary for prepayment of the mortgage, the Secretary shall not accept an offer to prepay the mortgage on such project or permit a termination of an insurance contract pursuant to section 229 of this Act unless—

(1) the Secretary has determined that such project is no longer meeting a need for rental housing for lower income families in the area;

(2) the Secretary (A) has determined that the tenants have been notified of the owner's request for approval of a prepayment; (B) has provided the tenants with an opportunity to comment on the owner's request; and (C) has taken such comments into consideration; and

(3) the Secretary has ensured that there is a plan for providing relocation assistance for adequate, comparable housing for any lower income tenant who will be displaced as a result of the prepayment and withdrawal of the project from the program.

(b) A mortgagee may foreclose the mortgage on, or acquire by deed in lieu of foreclosure, any eligible low-income housing project (as such term is defined in section 229 of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990) only if the mortgagee also conveys title to the project to the Secretary in connection with a claim for insurance benefits.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "lower income families" has the meaning given such term in section 3(b)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

ADJUSTABLE RATE SINGLE FAMILY MORTGAGES

SEC. 251. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–16] (a) The Secretary may insure under any provision of this title a mortgage involving property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for occupancy by one to four families, where the mortgage provides for periodic adjustments by the mortgagee in the effective rate of interest charged. Such interest rate adjustments may be accomplished through adjustments in the monthly payment amount, the outstanding principal balance, or the mortgage term, or a combination of these factors, except that in no case may any extension of a mortgage term result in a total term in excess of 40 years. Adjustments in the effective rate of interest shall correspond to a specified national interest rate index approved in regulations by the Secretary, information on which is readily accessible to the mortgagors from generally available published sources. Adjustments in the effective rate of interest shall (1) be made on an annual basis; (2) be limited, with respect to any single interest rate increase, to no more than 1 percent on the outstanding loan balance; and (3) be limited to a maximum increase of 5 percentage points above the initial contract interest rate over the term of the mortgage.

(b) The Secretary shall require that the mortgagee make available to the mortgagor, at the time of loan application, a written ex-

planation of the features of an adjustable rate mortgage consistent with the disclosure requirements applicable to variable rate mortgages secured by a principal dwelling under the Truth in Lending Act.

(c) The aggregate number of mortgages and loans insured under this section in any fiscal year may not exceed 30 percent of the aggregate number of mortgages and loans insured by the Secretary under this title during the preceding fiscal year.

(d)(1) The Secretary may insure under this subsection a mortgage that meets the requirements of subsection (a), except that the effective rate of interest—

(A) shall be fixed for a period of not less than the first 3 years of the mortgage term;

(B) shall be adjusted by the mortgagee initially upon the expiration of such period and annually thereafter; and

(C) in the case of the initial interest rate adjustment, is subject to the 1 percent limitation only if the interest rate remained fixed for 3 or fewer years.

(2) The disclosure required under subsection (b) shall be required for a mortgage insured under this subsection.

SHARED APPRECIATION MORTGAGES FOR SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING

SEC. 252. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–17] (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this title that is inconsistent with this section, the Secretary may insure, under any provision of this title providing for insurance of mortgages on properties upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for occupancy by one to four families, a mortgage secured by a first lien on such a property or on the stock allocated to a dwelling unit in a residential cooperative housing corporation, which—

(1) provides for the mortgagee to share in a predetermined percentage of the property's or stock's net appreciated value;

(2) bears interest at a rate which meets criteria prescribed by the Secretary;

(3) provides for amortization over a period of not to exceed 30 years, but the actual term of the mortgage (excluding any refinancing) may be not less than 10 nor more than 30 years, and contains such provisions relating to refinancing of the principal balance of the mortgage and any contingent deferred interest as the Secretary may provide; and

(4) meets such other conditions as the Secretary may require by regulation.

(b) The mortgagee's share of a property's or stock's net appreciated value shall be payable upon sale or transfer (as defined by the Secretary) of the property or stock or payment in full of the mortgage, whichever occurs first. For purposes of this section, the term "net appreciated value" means the amount by which the sales price of the property or stock (less the mortgagor's selling costs) exceeds the value of the property or stock at the time the commitment to insure is issued (with adjustments for capital improvements stipulated in the loan contract). If there has been no sale or transfer at the time the mortgagee's share of net appreciated value becomes payable, the sale price for purposes of this section shall be

determined by means of an appraisal conducted in accordance with procedures approved by the Secretary and provided for in the mortgage.

(c) In the event of a default, the mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of insurance in accordance with section 204(a), but such insurance benefits shall not include the mortgagee's share of net appreciated value. The term "original principal obligation of the mortgage" as used in section 204 shall not include the mortgagee's share of net appreciated value.

(d) Mortgages insured pursuant to this section which contain provisions for sharing appreciation or which otherwise require or permit increases in the outstanding loan balance which are authorized under this section or under applicable regulations shall not be subject to any State constitution, statute, court decree, common law, rule, or public policy limiting or prohibiting increases in the outstanding loan balance after execution of the mortgage.

(e) In carrying out the provisions of this section, the Secretary shall encourage the use of insurance under this section by low and moderate income tenants who would otherwise be displaced by the conversion of their rental housing to condominium or cooperative ownership.

(f) The Secretary shall prescribe adequate consumer protections and disclosure requirements with respect to mortgages insured under this section, and may prescribe such other terms and conditions as may be appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section.

(g) The aggregate number of mortgages and loans insured under this section and section 245(c) in any fiscal year may not exceed 10 percent of the aggregate number of mortgages and loans insured by the Secretary under this title during the preceding fiscal year.

SHARED APPRECIATION MORTGAGES FOR MULTIFAMILY HOUSING

SEC. 253. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-18] (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this title that is inconsistent with this section, the Secretary may insure, under any provision of this title providing for insurance of mortgages on properties including 5 or more family units, a mortgage secured by a first lien on the property that (1) provides for the mortgagee to share in a predetermined percentage of the property's net appreciated value; and (2) meets such other conditions, including limitations on the rate of interest which may be charged, as the Secretary may require by regulation.

(b) The mortgagee's share of a property's net appreciated value shall be payable upon maturity or upon payment in full of the loan or sale or transfer (as defined by the Secretary) of the property, whichever occurs first. The term of the mortgage shall not be less than 15 years, and shall be repayable in equal monthly installments of principal and fixed interest during the mortgage term in an amount which would be sufficient to retire a debt with the same principal and fixed interest rate over a period not exceeding 30 years. In the case of a mortgage which will not be completely amortized during the mortgage term, the principal obligation of the mortgage may not exceed 85 percent of the estimated value of the

property or project. For purposes of this section, the term “net appreciated value” means the amount by which the sales price of the property (less the mortgagor’s selling costs) exceeds the actual project cost after completion, as approved by the Secretary. If there has been no sale or transfer at the time the mortgagee’s share of net appreciated value becomes payable, the sales price for purposes of this section shall be determined by means of an appraisal conducted in accordance with procedures approved by the Secretary and provided for in the mortgage.

(c) In the event of a default, the mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of insurance in accordance with section 207, but such insurance benefits shall not include the mortgagee’s share of net appreciated value. The term “original principal face amount of the mortgage” as used in section 207 shall not include the mortgagee’s share of net appreciated value.

(d) The Secretary shall establish by regulation the maximum percentage of net appreciated value which may be payable to a mortgagee as the mortgagee’s share. The Secretary shall also establish disclosure requirements applicable to mortgagees making mortgage loans pursuant to this section, to assure that mortgagors are informed of the characteristics of such mortgages.

(e) Mortgages insured pursuant to this section which contain provisions for sharing appreciation or which otherwise require or permit increases in the outstanding loan balance which are authorized under this section or under applicable regulations shall not be subject to any State constitution, statute, court decree, common law, rule, or public policy limiting or prohibiting increases in the outstanding loan balance after execution of the mortgage.

(f) The number of dwelling units included in properties covered by mortgages insured pursuant to this section in any fiscal year may not exceed 5,000.

SEC. 254. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–19] EQUITY SKIMMING PENALTY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Whoever, as an owner, agent, or manager, or who is otherwise in custody, control, or possession of a multifamily project or a 1- to 4-family residence that is security for a mortgage note that is described in subsection (b), willfully uses or authorizes the use of any part of the rents, assets, proceeds, income, or other funds derived from property covered by that mortgage note for any purpose other than to meet reasonable and necessary expenses that include expenses approved by the Secretary if such approval is required, in a period during which the mortgage note is in default or the project is in a nonsurplus cash position, as defined by the regulatory agreement covering the property, or the mortgagor has failed to comply with the provisions of such other form of regulatory control imposed by the Secretary, shall be fined not more than \$500,000, imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

(b) **MORTGAGE NOTES DESCRIBED.**—For purposes of subsection (a), a mortgage note is described in this subsection if it—

(1) is insured, acquired, or held by the Secretary pursuant to this Act;

(2) is made pursuant to section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (including property still subject to section 202 program

requirements that existed before the date of enactment of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act); or

(3) is insured or held pursuant to section 542 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, but is not reinsured under section 542 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992.

INSURANCE OF HOME EQUITY CONVERSION MORTGAGES FOR ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS

SEC. 255. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–20] (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to authorize the Secretary to carry out a program of mortgage insurance designed—

(1) to meet the special needs of elderly homeowners by reducing the effect of the economic hardship caused by the increasing costs of meeting health, housing, and subsistence needs at a time of reduced income, through the insurance of home equity conversion mortgages to permit the conversion of a portion of accumulated home equity into liquid assets; and

(2) to encourage and increase the involvement of mortgagees and participants in the mortgage markets in the making and servicing of home equity conversion mortgages for elderly homeowners.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) The terms “elderly homeowner” and “homeowner” mean any homeowner who is, or whose spouse is, at least 62 years of age or such higher age as the Secretary may prescribe.

(2) The terms “mortgagee”, “mortgagor”, “real estate,”⁹⁸ and “State” have the meanings given such terms in section 201.

(3) The term “home equity conversion mortgage” means a first mortgage which provides for future payments to the homeowner based on accumulated equity and which a housing creditor (as defined in section 803(2) of the Garn-St Germain Depository Institutions Act of 1982) is authorized to make (A) under any law of the United States (other than section 804 of such Act) or applicable agency regulations thereunder; (B) in accordance with section 804 of such Act, notwithstanding any State constitution, law, or regulation; or (C) under any State constitution, law, or regulation.

(4) MORTGAGE.—The term “mortgage” means a first mortgage or first lien on real estate, in fee simple, a first or subordinate mortgage or lien on all stock allocated to a dwelling unit in a residential cooperative housing corporation, or a first mortgage or first lien on a leasehold—

(A) under a lease for not less than 99 years that is renewable; or

(B) under a lease that has a term that ends no earlier than the minimum number of years, as specified by the

⁹⁷ Section 143(3)(C)(i) of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act of 2000 (H.R. 5662, 106th Congress, as introduced in the House of Representatives, enacted by section 1(a)(7) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001, Pub. L. 106–554) provides that this sentence is amended by striking “insured” and inserting “for which risk of nonpayment is shared”. The amendment did not specify which occurrence of “insured” to strike and could not be executed.

Secretary, beyond the actuarial life expectancy of the mortgagor or comortgagor, whichever is the later date.

(5) **FIRST MORTGAGE.**—The term “first mortgage” means such classes of first liens as are commonly given to secure advances on, or the unpaid purchase price of, real estate or a first or subordinate lien on all stock allocated to a dwelling unit in a residential cooperative housing corporation, under the laws of the State in which the real estate or dwelling unit is located, together with the credit instruments, if any, secured thereby.

(c) **INSURANCE AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may, upon application by a mortgagee, insure any home equity conversion mortgage eligible for insurance under this section and, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, make commitments for the insurance of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement to the extent that the Secretary determines such mortgages—

(1) have promise for improving the financial situation or otherwise meeting the special needs of elderly homeowners;

(2) will include appropriate safeguards for mortgagors to offset the special risks of such mortgages; and

(3) have a potential for acceptance in the mortgage market.

(d) **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**—To be eligible for insurance under this section, a mortgage shall—

(1) have been originated by a mortgagee approved by the Secretary;

(2) have been executed by a mortgagor who—

(A) qualifies as an elderly homeowner;

(B) has received adequate counseling, as provided in subsection (f), by an independent third party that is not, either directly or indirectly, associated with or compensated by a party involved in—

(i) originating or servicing the mortgage;

(ii) funding the loan underlying the mortgage; or

(iii) the sale of annuities, investments, long-term care insurance, or any other type of financial or insurance product;

(C) has received full disclosure, as prescribed by the Secretary, of all costs charged to the mortgagor, including costs of estate planning, financial advice, and other services that are related to the mortgage but are not required to obtain the mortgage, which disclosure shall clearly state which charges are required to obtain the mortgage and which are not required to obtain the mortgage; and

(D) meets any additional requirements prescribed by the Secretary;

(3) be secured by a dwelling that is designed principally for a 1- to 4-family residence in which the mortgagor occupies 1 of the units;

(4) provide that prepayment, in whole or in part, may be made without penalty at any time during the period of the mortgage;

(5) provide for a fixed or variable interest rate or future sharing between the mortgagor and the mortgagee of the ap-

preciation in the value of the property, as agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee;

(6) contain provisions for satisfaction of the obligation satisfactory to the Secretary;

(7) provide that the homeowner shall not be liable for any difference between the net amount of the remaining indebtedness of the homeowner under the mortgage and the amount recovered by the mortgagee from—

(A) the net sales proceeds from the dwelling that are subject to the mortgage (based upon the amount of the accumulated equity selected by the mortgagor to be subject to the mortgage, as agreed upon by the mortgagor and mortgagee); or

(B) the insurance benefits paid pursuant to subsection (i)(1)(C);

(8) contain such terms and provisions with respect to insurance, repairs, alterations, payment of taxes, default reserve, delinquency charges, foreclosure proceedings, anticipation of maturity, additional and secondary liens, and other matters as the Secretary may prescribe;

(9) provide for future payments to the mortgagor based on accumulated equity (minus any applicable fees and charges), according to the method that the mortgagor shall select from among the methods under this paragraph, by payment of the amount—

(A) based upon a line of credit;

(B) on a monthly basis over a term specified by the mortgagor;

(C) on a monthly basis over a term specified by the mortgagor and based upon a line of credit;

(D) on a monthly basis over the tenure of the mortgagor;

(E) on a monthly basis over the tenure of the mortgagor and based upon a line of credit; or

(F) on any other basis that the Secretary considers appropriate;

(10) provide that the mortgagor may convert the method of payment under paragraph (9) to any other method during the term of the mortgage, except that in the case of a fixed rate mortgage, the Secretary may, by regulation, limit such convertibility; and

(11) have been made with such restrictions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to ensure that the mortgagor does not fund any unnecessary or excessive costs for obtaining the mortgage, including any costs of estate planning, financial advice, or other related services.

(e) DISCLOSURES BY MORTGAGEE.—The Secretary shall require each mortgagee of a mortgage insured under this section to make available to the homeowner—

(1) at the time of the loan application, a written list of the names and addresses of third-party information sources who are approved by the Secretary as responsible and able to provide the information required by subsection (f);

(2) at least 10 days prior to loan closing, a statement informing the homeowner that the liability of the homeowner under the mortgage is limited and explaining the homeowner's rights, obligations, and remedies with respect to temporary absences from the home, late payments, and payment default by the lender, all conditions requiring satisfaction of the loan obligation, and any other information that the Secretary may require;

(3) on an annual basis (but not later than January 31 of each year), a statement summarizing the total principal amount paid to the homeowner under the loan secured by the mortgage, the total amount of deferred interest added to the principal, and the outstanding loan balance at the end of the preceding year; and

(4) prior to loan closing, a statement of the projected total cost of the mortgage to the homeowner based on the projected total future loan balance (such cost expressed as a single average annual interest rate for at least 2 different appreciation rates for the term of the mortgage) for not less than 2 projected loan terms, as the Secretary shall determine, which shall include—

(A) the cost for a short-term mortgage; and

(B) the cost of a loan term equaling the actuarial life expectancy of the mortgagor.

(f) COUNSELING SERVICES AND INFORMATION FOR MORTGAGORS.—The Secretary shall provide or cause to be provided adequate counseling for the mortgagor, as described in subsection (d)(2)(B). Such counseling shall be provided by counselors that meet qualification standards and follow uniform counseling protocols. The qualification standards and counseling protocols shall be established by the Secretary within 12 months of the date of enactment of the Building American Homeownership Act of 2008. The protocols shall require a qualified counselor to discuss with each mortgagor information which shall include—

(1) options other than a home equity conversion mortgage that are available to the homeowner, including other housing, social service, health, and financial options;

(2) other home equity conversion options that are or may become available to the homeowner, such as sale-leaseback financing, deferred payment loans, and property tax deferral;

(3) the financial implications of entering into a home equity conversion mortgage;

(4) a disclosure that a home equity conversion mortgage may have tax consequences, affect eligibility for assistance under Federal and State programs, and have an impact on the estate and heirs of the homeowner; and

(5) any other information that the Secretary may require. The Secretary shall consult with consumer groups, industry representatives, representatives of counseling organizations, and other interested parties to identify alternative approaches to providing consumer information required by this subsection that may be feasible and desirable for home equity conversion mortgages insured under this section and other types of reverse mortgages. The Secretary may, in lieu of providing the consumer education required

by this subsection, adopt alternative approaches to consumer education that may be developed as a result of such consultations, but only if the alternative approaches provide all of the information specified in this subsection.

(g) **LIMITATION ON INSURANCE AUTHORITY.**—The aggregate number of mortgages insured under this section may not exceed 275,000. In no case may the benefits of insurance under this section exceed the maximum dollar amount limitation established under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act for a 1-family residence.

(h) **ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may—

(1) enter into such contracts and agreements with Federal, State, and local agencies, public and private entities, and such other persons as the Secretary determines to be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this section;

(2) make such investigations and studies of data, and publish and distribute such reports, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate; and

(3) establish, by notice or mortgagee letter, any additional or alternative requirements that the Secretary, in the Secretary's discretion, determines are necessary to improve the fiscal safety and soundness of the program authorized by this section, which requirements shall take effect upon issuance.

(i) **PROTECTION OF HOMEOWNER AND LENDER.**—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and in order to further the purposes of the program authorized in this section, the Secretary shall take any action necessary—

(A) to provide any mortgagor under this section with funds to which the mortgagor is entitled under the insured mortgage or ancillary contracts but that the mortgagor has not received because of the default of the party responsible for payment;

(B) to obtain repayment of disbursements provided under subparagraph (A) from any source; and

(C) to provide any mortgagee under this section with funds not to exceed the limitations in subsection (g) to which the mortgagee is entitled under the terms of the insured mortgage or ancillary contracts authorized in this section.

(2) Actions under paragraph (1) may include—

(A) disbursing funds to the mortgagor or mortgagee from the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund;

(B) accepting an assignment of the insured mortgage notwithstanding that the mortgagor is not in default under its terms, and calculating the amount and making the payment of the insurance claim on such assigned mortgage;

(C) requiring a subordinate mortgage from the mortgagor at any time in order to secure repayments of any funds advanced or to be advanced to the mortgagor;

(D) requiring a subrogation to the Secretary of the rights of any parties to the transaction against any defaulting parties; and

(E) imposing premium charges.

(j) **SAFEGUARD TO PREVENT DISPLACEMENT OF HOMEOWNER.**—The Secretary may not insure a home equity conversion mortgage under this section unless such mortgage provides that the homeowner's obligation to satisfy the loan obligation is deferred until the homeowner's death, the sale of the home, or the occurrence of other events specified in regulations of the Secretary. For purposes of this subsection, the term "homeowner" includes the spouse of a homeowner. Section 137(b) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1647(b)) and any implementing regulations issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System shall not apply to a mortgage insured under this section.

(k) **INSURANCE AUTHORITY FOR REFINANCINGS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may, upon application by a mortgagee, insure under this subsection any mortgage given to refinance an existing home equity conversion mortgage insured under this section.

(2) **ANTI-CHURNING DISCLOSURE.**—The Secretary shall, by regulation, require that the mortgagee of a mortgage insured under this subsection, provide to the mortgagor, within an appropriate time period and in a manner established in such regulations, a good faith estimate of: (A) the total cost of the refinancing; and (B) the increase in the mortgagor's principal limit as measured by the estimated initial principal limit on the mortgage to be insured under this subsection less the current principal limit on the home equity conversion mortgage that is being refinanced and insured under this subsection.

(3) **WAIVER OF COUNSELING REQUIREMENT.**—The mortgagor under a mortgage insured under this subsection may waive the applicability, with respect to such mortgage, of the requirements under subsection (d)(2)(B) (relating to third party counseling), but only if—

(A) the mortgagor has received the disclosure required under paragraph (2);

(B) the increase in the principal limit described in paragraph (2) exceeds the amount of the total cost of refinancing (as described in such paragraph) by an amount to be determined by the Secretary; and

(C) the time between the closing of the original home equity conversion mortgage that is refinanced through the mortgage insured under this subsection and the application for a refinancing mortgage insured under this subsection does not exceed 5 years.

(4) **CREDIT FOR PREMIUMS PAID.**—Notwithstanding section 203(c)(2)(A), the Secretary may reduce the amount of the single premium payment otherwise collected under such section at the time of the insurance of a mortgage refinanced and insured under this subsection. The amount of the single premium for mortgages refinanced under this subsection shall be determined by the Secretary based on the actuarial study required under paragraph (5).

(5) **ACTUARIAL STUDY.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the American Homeownership and

Economic Opportunity Act of 2000,⁹⁹ the Secretary shall conduct an actuarial analysis to determine the adequacy of the insurance premiums collected under the program under this subsection with respect to—

(A) a reduction in the single premium payment collected at the time of the insurance of a mortgage refinanced and insured under this subsection;

(B) the establishment of a single national limit on the benefits of insurance under subsection (g) (relating to limitation on insurance authority); and

(C) the combined effect of reduced insurance premiums and a single national limitation on insurance authority.

(6) FEES.—The Secretary may establish a limit on the origination fee that may be charged to a mortgagor under a mortgage insured under this subsection, except that such limitation shall provide that the origination fee may be fully financed with the mortgage and shall include any fees paid to correspondent mortgagees approved by the Secretary.

(l) FUNDING FOR COUNSELING.—The Secretary may use a portion of the mortgage insurance premiums collected under the program under this section to adequately fund the counseling and disclosure activities required under subsection (f), including counseling for those homeowners who elect not to take out a home equity conversion mortgage, provided that the use of such funds is based upon accepted actuarial principles.

(m) AUTHORITY TO INSURE HOME PURCHASE MORTGAGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary may insure, upon application by a mortgagee, a home equity conversion mortgage upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, when the home equity conversion mortgage will be used to purchase a 1-to 4-family dwelling unit, one unit of which the mortgagor will occupy as a primary residence, and to provide for any future payments to the mortgagor, based on available equity, as authorized under subsection (d)(9).

(2) LIMITATION ON PRINCIPAL OBLIGATION.—A home equity conversion mortgage insured pursuant to paragraph (1) shall involve a principal obligation that does not exceed the dollar amount limitation determined under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act for a 1-family residence.

(n) REQUIREMENTS ON MORTGAGE ORIGINATORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The mortgagee and any other party that participates in the origination of a mortgage to be insured under this section shall—

(A) not participate in, be associated with, or employ any party that participates in or is associated with any other financial or insurance activity; or

(B) demonstrate to the Secretary that the mortgagee or other party maintains, or will maintain, firewalls and other safeguards designed to ensure that—

⁹⁹The date of enactment was December 27, 2000.

(i) individuals participating in the origination of the mortgage shall have no involvement with, or incentive to provide the mortgagor with, any other financial or insurance product; and

(ii) the mortgagor shall not be required, directly or indirectly, as a condition of obtaining a mortgage under this section, to purchase any other financial or insurance product.

(2) APPROVAL OF OTHER PARTIES.—All parties that participate in the origination of a mortgage to be insured under this section shall be approved by the Secretary.

(o) PROHIBITION AGAINST REQUIREMENTS TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS.—The mortgagor or any other party shall not be required by the mortgagee or any other party to purchase an insurance, annuity, or other similar product as a requirement or condition of eligibility for insurance under subsection (c), except for title insurance, hazard, flood, or other peril insurance, or other such products that are customary and normal under subsection (c), as determined by the Secretary.

(p) STUDY TO DETERMINE CONSUMER PROTECTIONS AND UNDERWRITING STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall conduct a study to examine and determine appropriate consumer protections and underwriting standards to ensure that the purchase of products referred to in subsection (o) is appropriate for the consumer. In conducting such study, the Secretary shall consult with consumer advocates (including recognized experts in consumer protection), industry representatives, representatives of counseling organizations, and other interested parties.

(r)¹⁰⁰ LIMITATION ON ORIGATION FEES.—The Secretary shall establish limits on the origination fee that may be charged to a mortgagor under a mortgage insured under this section, which limitations shall—

(1) be equal to 2.0 percent of the maximum claim amount of the mortgage, up to a maximum claim amount of \$200,000 plus 1 percent of any portion of the maximum claim amount that is greater than \$200,000, unless adjusted thereafter on the basis of an analysis of—

(A) the costs to mortgagors; and

(B) the impact on the reverse mortgage market;

(2) be subject to a minimum allowable amount;

(3) provide that the origination fee may be fully financed with the mortgage;

(4) include any fees paid to correspondent mortgagees approved by the Secretary;

(5) have the same effective date as subsection (m)(2) regarding the limitation on principal obligation; and

(6) be subject to a maximum origination fee of \$6,000, except that such maximum limit shall be adjusted in accordance with the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor in increments of \$500 only when the percentage increase

¹⁰⁰ So in law. There is no subsection (q) in section 255.

in such index, when applied to the maximum origination fee, produces dollar increases that exceed \$500.

DELEGATION OF INSURING AUTHORITY TO DIRECT ENDORSEMENT
MORTGAGEES

SEC. 256. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-21] (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may delegate, to one or more mortgagees approved by the Secretary under the direct endorsement program, the authority of the Secretary under this Act to insure mortgages involving property upon which there is located a dwelling designed principally for occupancy by 1 to 4 families.

(b) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In determining whether to delegate authority to a mortgagee under this section, the Secretary shall consider the experience and performance of the mortgagee compared to the default rate of all insured mortgages in comparable markets, and such other factors as the Secretary determines appropriate to minimize risk of loss to the insurance funds under this Act.

(c) **ENFORCEMENT OF INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Secretary determines that a mortgage insured by a mortgagee pursuant to delegation of authority under this section was not originated in accordance with the requirements established by the Secretary, and the Secretary pays an insurance claim with respect to the mortgage within a reasonable period specified by the Secretary, the Secretary may require the mortgagee approved under this section to indemnify the Secretary for the loss.

(2) **FRAUD OR MISREPRESENTATION.**—If fraud or misrepresentation was involved in connection with the origination, the Secretary may require the mortgagee approved under this section to indemnify the Secretary for the loss regardless of when an insurance claim is paid.

(d) **TERMINATION OF MORTGAGEE'S AUTHORITY.**—If a mortgagee to which the Secretary has made a delegation under this section violates the requirements and procedures established by the Secretary or the Secretary determines that other good cause exists, the Secretary may cancel a delegation of authority under this section to the mortgagee by giving notice to the mortgagee. Such a cancellation shall be effective upon receipt of the notice by the mortgagee or at a later date specified by the Secretary. A decision by the Secretary to cancel a delegation shall be final and conclusive and shall not be subject to judicial review.

(e) **REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES.**—Before approving a delegation under this section, the Secretary shall issue regulations establishing appropriate requirements and procedures, including requirements and procedures governing the indemnification of the Secretary by the mortgagee.

SEC. 257. [12 U.S.C. 1715z-23] HOPE FOR HOMEOWNERS PROGRAM.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Federal Housing Administration a HOPE for Homeowners Program.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the HOPE for Homeowners Program is—

(1) to create an FHA program, participation in which is voluntary on the part of homeowners and existing loan holders

to insure refinanced loans for distressed borrowers to support long-term, sustainable homeownership;

(2) to allow homeowners to avoid foreclosure by reducing the principle¹⁰¹ balance outstanding, and interest rate charged, on their mortgages;

(3) to help stabilize and provide confidence in mortgage markets by bringing transparency to the value of assets based on mortgage assets;

(4) to target mortgage assistance under this section to homeowners for their principal residence;

(5) to enhance the administrative capacity of the FHA to carry out its expanded role under the HOPE for Homeowners Program;

(6) to ensure the HOPE for Homeowners Program remains in effect only for as long as is necessary to provide stability to the housing market; and

(7) to provide servicers of delinquent mortgages with additional methods and approaches to avoid foreclosure.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—In order to carry out the purposes of the HOPE for Homeowners Program, the Secretary, after consultation with the Board, shall—

(A) establish requirements and standards for the program consistent with section 203(b) to the maximum extent possible; and

(B) prescribe such regulations and provide such guidance as may be necessary or appropriate to implement such requirements and standards.

(2) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—In carrying out any of the program requirements or standards established under paragraph (1), the Secretary may issue such interim guidance and mortgagee letters as the Secretary determines necessary or appropriate.

(3) DUTIES OF BOARD.—The Board shall advise the Secretary regarding the establishment and implementation of the HOPE for Homeowners Program.

(d) INSURANCE OF MORTGAGES.—The Secretary is authorized upon application of a mortgagee to make commitments to insure or to insure any eligible mortgage that has been refinanced in a manner meeting the requirements under subsection (e).

(e) REQUIREMENTS OF INSURED MORTGAGES.—To be eligible for insurance under this section, a refinanced eligible mortgage shall comply with all of the following requirements:

(1) BORROWER CERTIFICATION.—

(A) NO INTENTIONAL DEFAULT OR FALSE INFORMATION.—The mortgagor shall provide a certification to the Secretary that the mortgagor has not intentionally defaulted on the existing mortgage or mortgages or any other substantial debt within the last 5 years and has not knowingly, or willfully and with actual knowledge, furnished material information known to be false for the purpose of

¹⁰¹ So in law.

obtaining the eligible mortgage to be insured and has not been convicted under Federal or State law for fraud during the 10-year period ending upon the insurance of the mortgage under this section.

(B) **LIABILITY FOR REPAYMENT.**—The mortgagor shall agree in writing that the mortgagor shall be liable to repay to the Secretary any direct financial benefit achieved from the reduction of indebtedness on the existing mortgage or mortgages on the residence refinanced under this section derived from misrepresentations made by the mortgagor in the certifications and documentation required under this paragraph, subject to the discretion of the Secretary.

(C) **CURRENT BORROWER DEBT-TO-INCOME RATIO.**—As of the date of application for a commitment to insure or insurance under this section, the mortgagor shall have had, or thereafter is likely to have, due to the terms of the mortgage being reset, a ratio of mortgage debt to income, taking into consideration all existing mortgages of that mortgagor at such time, greater than 31 percent (or such higher amount as the Secretary determines appropriate).

(2) **DETERMINATION OF PRINCIPAL OBLIGATION AMOUNT.**—The principal obligation amount of the refinanced eligible mortgage to be insured shall—

(A) be determined by the reasonable ability of the mortgagor to make his or her mortgage payments, as such ability is determined by the Secretary pursuant to section 203(b)(4) or by any other underwriting standards established by the Secretary; and

(B) not exceed 90 percent of the appraised value of the property to which such mortgage relates (or such higher percentage as the Secretary determines, in the discretion of the Secretary).

(3) **REQUIRED WAIVER OF PREPAYMENT PENALTIES AND FEES.**—All penalties for prepayment or refinancing of the eligible mortgage, and all fees and penalties related to default or delinquency on the eligible mortgage, shall be waived or forgiven.

(4) **EXTINGUISHMENT OF SUBORDINATE LIENS.**—

(A) **REQUIRED AGREEMENT.**—All holders of outstanding mortgage liens on the property to which the eligible mortgage relates shall agree to accept the proceeds of the insured loan and any payments made under this paragraph, as payment in full of all indebtedness under the eligible mortgage, and all encumbrances related to such eligible mortgage shall be removed. The Secretary may take such actions, subject to standards established by the Secretary under subparagraph (B),¹⁰² as may be necessary and appropriate to facilitate coordination and agreement between the holders of the existing senior mortgage and any exist-

¹⁰² Section 202(a)(3)(B) of division A of Public Law 111–22 amends subparagraph (A) by striking “, subject to standards established by the Board under subparagraph (B).”. The amendment could not be executed because the text proposed to be struck does not appear as a result of a global amendment made by paragraph (2) of such section to strike “Board” and inserting “Secretary” throughout section 257(e).

ing subordinate mortgages, taking into consideration the subordinate lien status of such subordinate mortgages. Such actions may include making payments, which shall be accepted as payment in full of all indebtedness under the eligible mortgage, to any holder of an existing subordinate mortgage, in lieu of any future appreciation payments authorized under subparagraph (B).

(B) SHARED APPRECIATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish standards and policies that will allow for the payment to the holder of any existing subordinate mortgage of a portion of any future appreciation in the property secured by such eligible mortgage that is owed to the Secretary pursuant to subsection (k).

(ii) FACTORS.—In establishing the standards and policies required under clause (i), the Secretary shall take into consideration—

(I) the status of any subordinate mortgage;

(II) the outstanding principal balance of and accrued interest on the existing senior mortgage and any outstanding subordinate mortgages;

(III) the extent to which the current appraised value of the property securing a subordinate mortgage is less than the outstanding principal balance and accrued interest on any other liens that are senior to such subordinate mortgage; and

(IV) such other factors as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(C) VOLUNTARY PROGRAM.—This paragraph may not be construed to require any holder of any existing mortgage to participate in the program under this section generally, or with respect to any particular loan.

(5) TERM OF MORTGAGE.—The refinanced eligible mortgage to be insured shall—

(A) bear interest at a single rate that is fixed for the entire term of the mortgage; and

(B) have a maturity of not less than 30 years from the date of the beginning of amortization of such refinanced eligible mortgage.

(6) MAXIMUM LOAN AMOUNT.—The principal obligation amount of the eligible mortgage to be insured shall not exceed 132 percent of the dollar amount limitation in effect for 2007 under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)) for a property of the applicable size.

(7) PROHIBITION ON SECOND LIENS.—A mortgagor may not grant a new second lien on the mortgaged property during the first 5 years of the term of the mortgage insured under this section, except as the Secretary determines to be necessary to ensure the maintenance of property standards.

(8) APPRAISALS.—Any appraisal conducted in connection with a mortgage insured under this section shall—

(A) be based on the current value of the property;

(B) be conducted in accordance with title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3331 et seq.);

(C) be completed by an appraiser who meets the competency requirements of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice;

(D) be wholly consistent with the appraisal standards, practices, and procedures under section 202(e) of this Act that apply to all loans insured under this Act; and

(E) comply with the requirements of subsection (g) of this section (relating to appraisal independence).

(9) DOCUMENTATION AND VERIFICATION OF INCOME.—In complying with the FHA underwriting requirements under the HOPE for Homeowners Program under this section, the mortgagee shall document and verify the income of the mortgagor or non-filing status in accordance with procedures and standards that the Secretary shall establish (provided that such procedures and standards are consistent with section 203(b) to the maximum extent possible) which may include requiring the mortgagee to procure¹⁰³ a copy of the income tax returns from the Internal Revenue Service, for the two most recent years for which the filing deadline for such years has passed and by any other method, in accordance with procedures and standards that the Secretary shall establish¹⁰⁴.

(10) MORTGAGE FRAUD.—

(A) PROHIBITION.—The mortgagor shall not have been convicted under Federal or State law for fraud during the 10-year period ending upon the insurance of the mortgage under this section.

(B) DUTY OF MORTGAGEE.—The duty of the mortgagee to ensure that the mortgagor is in compliance with the prohibition under subparagraph (A) shall be satisfied if the mortgagee makes a good faith effort to determine that the mortgagor has not been convicted under Federal or State law for fraud during the period described in subparagraph (A).

(11) PRIMARY RESIDENCE.—The mortgagor shall provide documentation satisfactory in the determination of the Secretary to prove that the residence covered by the mortgage to be insured under this section is occupied by the mortgagor as the primary residence of the mortgagor, and that such residence is the only residence in which the mortgagor has any present ownership interest, except that the Secretary may provide exceptions to such latter requirement (relating to present

¹⁰³ Section 202(a)(3)(D)(i) of division A of Public Law 111–22 amends paragraph (9) by striking “by procuring (A) an income tax return transcript of the income tax return of the mortgagor, or (B)” and inserting “in accordance with procedures and standards that the Secretary shall establish (provided that such procedures and standards are consistent with section 203(b) to the maximum extent possible) which may include requiring the mortgagee to procure”. Such amendment was executed by striking “by procuring (A) an income tax return transcript of the income tax return[s] of the mortgagor, or (B)” in order to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

¹⁰⁴ Section 202(a)(3)(D)(ii) of division A of Public Law 111–22 amends subparagraph (A) by striking “and by any other method, in accordance with procedures and standards that the Board shall establish”. The amendment could not be executed because the text proposed to be struck does not appear as a result of a global amendment made by paragraph (2) of such section to strike “Board” and inserting “Secretary” throughout section 257(e).

ownership interest) for any mortgagor who has inherited a property.

(12) BAN ON MILLIONAIRES.—The mortgagor shall not have a net worth, as of the date the mortgagor first applies for a mortgage to be insured under the Program under this section, that exceeds \$1,000,000.

(f) STUDY OF AUCTION OR BULK REFINANCE PROGRAM.—

(1) STUDY.—The Board shall conduct a study of the need for and efficacy of an auction or bulk refinancing mechanism to facilitate refinancing of existing residential mortgages that are at risk for foreclosure into mortgages insured under this section. The study shall identify and examine various options for mechanisms under which lenders and servicers of such mortgages may make bids for forward commitments for such insurance in an expedited manner.

(2) CONTENT.—

(A) ANALYSIS.—The study required under paragraph

(1) shall analyze—

(i) the feasibility of establishing a mechanism that would facilitate the more rapid refinancing of borrowers at risk of foreclosure into performing mortgages insured under this section;

(ii) whether such a mechanism would provide an effective and efficient mechanism to reduce foreclosures on qualified existing mortgages;

(iii) whether the use of an auction or bulk refinance program is necessary to stabilize the housing market and reduce the impact of turmoil in that market on the economy of the United States;

(iv) whether there are other mechanisms or authority that would be useful to reduce foreclosure; and

(v) and any other factors that the Board considers relevant.

(B) DETERMINATIONS.—To the extent that the Board finds that a facility of the type described in subparagraph (A) is feasible and useful, the study shall—

(i) determine and identify any additional authority or resources needed to establish and operate such a mechanism;

(ii) determine whether there is a need for additional authority with respect to the loan underwriting criteria established in this section or with respect to eligibility of participating borrowers, lenders, or holders of liens;¹⁰⁵

(iii) determine whether such underwriting criteria should be established on the basis of individual loans, in the aggregate, or otherwise to facilitate the goal of refinancing borrowers at risk of foreclosure into viable loans insured under this section.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the 60-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this section, the Board shall submit a report regarding the results of the

¹⁰⁵ So in law. There is no “and”.

study conducted under this subsection to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate. The report shall include a detailed description of the analysis required under paragraph (2)(A) and of the determinations made pursuant to paragraph (2)(B), and shall include any other findings and recommendations of the Board pursuant to the study, including identifying various options for mechanisms described in paragraph (1).

(g) APPRAISAL INDEPENDENCE.—

(1) PROHIBITIONS ON INTERESTED PARTIES IN A REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION.—No mortgage lender, mortgage broker, mortgage banker, real estate broker, appraisal management company, employee of an appraisal management company, nor any other person with an interest in a real estate transaction involving an appraisal in connection with a mortgage insured under this section shall improperly influence, or attempt to improperly influence, through coercion, extortion, collusion, compensation, instruction, inducement, intimidation, nonpayment for services rendered, or bribery, the development, reporting, result, or review of a real estate appraisal sought in connection with the mortgage.

(2) CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES.—The Secretary may impose a civil money penalty for any knowing and material violation of paragraph (1) under the same terms and conditions as are authorized in section 536(a) of this Act.

(h) STANDARDS TO PROTECT AGAINST ADVERSE SELECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, by rule or order, establish standards and policies to require the underwriter of the insured loan to provide such representations and warranties as the Secretary considers necessary or appropriate to enforce compliance with all underwriting and appraisal standards of the HOPE for Homeowners Program.

(2) EXCLUSION FOR VIOLATIONS.—The Secretary shall not pay insurance benefits to a mortgagee who violates the representations and warranties, as established under paragraph (1), or in any case in which a mortgagor fails to make the first payment on a refinanced eligible mortgage.

(3) OTHER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may establish such other standards or policies as necessary to protect against adverse selection, including requiring loans identified by the Secretary as higher risk loans to demonstrate payment performance for a reasonable period of time prior to being insured under the program.

(i) PREMIUMS.—

(1) PREMIUMS.—For each refinanced eligible mortgage insured under this section, the Secretary shall establish and collect—

(A) at the time of insurance, a single premium payment in an amount not more than 3 percent of the amount of the original insured principal obligation of the refinanced eligible mortgage, which shall be paid from the proceeds of the mortgage being insured under this section,

through the reduction of the amount of indebtedness that existed on the eligible mortgage prior to refinancing; and

(B) in addition to the premium required under paragraph (1), an annual premium in an amount not more than 1.5 percent of the amount of the remaining insured principal balance of the mortgage.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In setting the premium under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider—

(A) the financial integrity of the HOPE for Homeowners Program; and

(B) the purposes of the HOPE for Homeowners Program described in subsection (b).

(j) ORIGINATION FEES AND INTEREST RATE.—The Secretary shall establish—

(1) a reasonable limitation on origination fees for refinanced eligible mortgages insured under this section; and

(2) procedures to ensure that interest rates on such mortgages shall be commensurate with market rate interest rates on such types of loans.

(k) EXIT FEE.—

(1) FIVE-YEAR PHASE-IN FOR EQUITY AS A RESULT OF SALE OR REFINANCING.—For each eligible mortgage insured under this section, the Secretary and the mortgagor of such mortgage shall, upon any sale or disposition of the property to which such mortgage relates, or upon the subsequent refinancing of such mortgage, be entitled to the following with respect to any equity created as a direct result of the mortgage being insured under this section:

(A) If such sale or refinancing occurs during the period that begins on the date that such mortgage is insured and ends 1 year after such date of insurance, the Secretary shall be entitled to 100 percent of such equity.

(B) If such sale or refinancing occurs during the period that begins 1 year after such date of insurance and ends 2 years after such date of insurance, the Secretary shall be entitled to 90 percent of such equity and the mortgagor shall be entitled to 10 percent of such equity.

(C) If such sale or refinancing occurs during the period that begins 2 years after such date of insurance and ends 3 years after such date of insurance, the Secretary shall be entitled to 80 percent of such equity and the mortgagor shall be entitled to 20 percent of such equity.

(D) If such sale or refinancing occurs during the period that begins 3 years after such date of insurance and ends 4 years after such date of insurance, the Secretary shall be entitled to 70 percent of such equity and the mortgagor shall be entitled to 30 percent of such equity.

(E) If such sale or refinancing occurs during the period that begins 4 years after such date of insurance and ends 5 years after such date of insurance, the Secretary shall be entitled to 60 percent of such equity and the mortgagor shall be entitled to 40 percent of such equity.

(F) If such sale or refinancing occurs during any period that begins 5 years after such date of insurance, the

Secretary shall be entitled to 50 percent of such equity and the mortgagor shall be entitled to 50 percent of such equity.

(2) APPRECIATION IN VALUE.—For each eligible mortgage insured under this section, the Secretary may, upon any sale or disposition of the property to which the mortgage relates, be entitled to up to 50 percent of appreciation, up to the appraised value of the home at the time when the mortgage being refinanced under this section was originally made. The Secretary may share any amounts received under this paragraph with or assign the rights of any amounts due to the Secretary to the holder of the existing senior mortgage on the eligible mortgage, the holder of any existing subordinate mortgage on the eligible mortgage, or both.

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF HOPE FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Federal Housing Administration a revolving fund to be known as the Home Ownership Preservation Entity Fund, which shall be used by the Secretary for carrying out the mortgage insurance obligations under this section.

(2) MANAGEMENT OF FUND.—The HOPE Fund shall be administered and managed by the Secretary, who shall establish reasonable and prudent criteria for the management and operation of any amounts in the HOPE Fund.

(m) LIMITATION ON AGGREGATE INSURANCE AUTHORITY.—The aggregate original principal obligation of all mortgages insured under this section may not exceed \$300,000,000,000.

(n) REPORTS BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall submit monthly reports to the Congress identifying the progress of the HOPE for Homeowners Program, which shall contain the following information for each month:

(1) The number of new mortgages insured under this section, including the location of the properties subject to such mortgages by census tract.

(2) The aggregate principal obligation of new mortgages insured under this section.

(3) The average amount by which the principle¹⁰⁶ balance outstanding on mortgages insured this section was reduced.

(4) The amount of premiums collected for insurance of mortgages under this section.

(5) The claim and loss rates for mortgages insured under this section.

(6) Any other information that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(o) REQUIRED OUTREACH EFFORTS.—The Secretary shall carry out outreach efforts to ensure that homeowners, lenders, and the general public are aware of the opportunities for assistance available under this section.

(p) ENHANCEMENT OF FHA CAPACITY.—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to—

(1) contract for the establishment of underwriting criteria, automated underwriting systems, pricing standards, and other

¹⁰⁶ So in law.

factors relating to eligibility for mortgages insured under this section;

(2) contract for independent quality reviews of underwriting, including appraisal reviews and fraud detection, of mortgages insured under this section or pools of such mortgages; and

(3) increase personnel of the Department as necessary to process or monitor the processing of mortgages insured under this section.

(q) GNMA COMMITMENT AUTHORITY.—

(1) GUARANTEES.—The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that securities based on and backed by a trust or pool composed of mortgages insured under this section are available to be guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association as to the timely payment of principal and interest.

(2) GUARANTEE AUTHORITY.—To carry out the purposes of section 306 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1721), the Government National Mortgage Association may enter into new commitments to issue guarantees of securities based on or backed by mortgages insured under this section, not exceeding \$300,000,000,000. The amount of authority provided under the preceding sentence to enter into new commitments to issue guarantees is in addition to any amount of authority to make new commitments to issue guarantees that is provided to the Association under any other provision of law.

(r) SUNSET.—The Secretary may not enter into any new commitment to insure any refinanced eligible mortgage, or newly insure any refinanced eligible mortgage pursuant to this section before October 1, 2008 or after September 30, 2011.

(s) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) APPROVED FINANCIAL INSTITUTION OR MORTGAGEE.—The term “approved financial institution or mortgagee” means a financial institution or mortgagee approved by the Secretary under section 203 as responsible and able to service mortgages responsibly.

(2) BOARD.—The term “Board” means the Advisory Board for the HOPE for Homeowners Program. The Board shall be composed of the Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairperson of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or their designees.

(3) ELIGIBLE MORTGAGE.—The term “eligible mortgage” means a mortgage—

(A) the mortgagor of which—

(i) occupies such property as his or her principal residence; and

(ii) cannot, subject to such standards established by the Secretary, afford his or her mortgage payments; and

(B) originated on or before January 1, 2008.

(4) **EXISTING SENIOR MORTGAGE.**—The term “existing senior mortgage” means, with respect to a mortgage insured under this section, the existing mortgage that has superior priority.

(5) **EXISTING SUBORDINATE MORTGAGE.**—The term “existing subordinate mortgage” means, with respect to a mortgage insured under this section, an existing mortgage that has subordinate priority to the existing senior mortgage.

(6) **HOPE FOR HOMEOWNERS PROGRAM.**—The term “HOPE for Homeowners Program” means the program established under this section.

(7) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, except where specifically provided otherwise.

(t) **REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE BOARD.**—

(1) **COMPENSATION, ACTUAL, NECESSARY, AND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES.**—

(A) **FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.**—A member of the Board who is an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall serve without additional pay (or benefits in the nature of compensation) for service as a member of the Board.

(B) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—Members of the Board shall be entitled to receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, equivalent to those set forth in subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) **BYLAWS.**—The Board may prescribe, amend, and repeal such bylaws as may be necessary for carrying out the functions of the Board.

(3) **QUORUM.**—A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

(4) **STAFF; EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**—

(A) **DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.**—Upon request of the Board, any Federal Government employee may be detailed to the Board without reimbursement, and such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(B) **EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**—The Board shall procure the services of experts and consultants as the Board considers appropriate.

(u) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION RELATED TO VOLUNTARY NATURE OF THE PROGRAM.**—This section shall not be construed to require that any approved financial institution or mortgagee participate in any activity authorized under this section, including any activity related to the refinancing of an eligible mortgage.

(v) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION RELATED TO INSURANCE OF MORTGAGES.**—Except as otherwise provided for in this section or by action of the Secretary, the provisions and requirements of section 203(b) shall apply with respect to the insurance of any eligible mortgage under this section. The Secretary shall conform documents, forms, and procedures for mortgages insured under this section to those in place for mortgages insured under section 203(b) to the maximum extent possible consistent with the requirements of this section.

(w) **HOPE BONDS.**—

(1) **ISSUANCE AND REPAYMENT OF BONDS.**—Notwithstanding section 504(b) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661d(b)¹⁰⁷), the Secretary of the Treasury shall—

(A) subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Treasury deems necessary, issue Federal credit instruments, to be known as “HOPE Bonds”, that are callable at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury and do not, in the aggregate, exceed the amount specified in subsection (m);

(B) provide the subsidy amounts necessary for loan guarantees under the HOPE for Homeowners Program, not to exceed the amount specified in subsection (m), in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), except as provided in this paragraph; and

(C) use the proceeds from HOPE Bonds only to pay for the net costs to the Federal Government of the HOPE for Homeowners Program, including administrative costs and payments pursuant to subsection (e)(4)(A).

(2) **REIMBURSEMENTS TO TREASURY.**—Funds received pursuant to section 1338(b) of the Federal Housing Enterprises Regulatory Reform Act of 1992¹⁰⁸ shall be used to reimburse the Secretary of the Treasury for amounts borrowed under paragraph (1).

(3) **USE OF RESERVE FUND.**—If the net cost to the Federal Government for the HOPE for Homeowners Program exceeds the amount of funds received under paragraph (2), remaining debts of the HOPE for Homeowners Program shall be paid from amounts deposited into the fund established by the Secretary under section 1337(e) of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, remaining amounts in such fund to be used to reduce the National debt.

(4) **REDUCTION OF NATIONAL DEBT.**—Amounts collected under the HOPE for Homeowners Program in accordance with subsections (i) and (k) in excess of the net cost to the Federal Government for such Program shall be used to reduce the National debt.

(x) **PAYMENTS TO SERVICERS AND ORIGINATORS.**—The Secretary may establish a payment to the—

(1) servicer of the existing senior mortgage or existing subordinate mortgage for every loan insured under the HOPE for Homeowners Program; and

(2) originator of each new loan insured under the HOPE for Homeowners Program.

(y) **AUCTIONS.**—The Secretary, with the concurrence of the Board, shall, if feasible, establish a structure and organize procedures for an auction to refinance eligible mortgages on a wholesale or bulk basis.

¹⁰⁷ So in law. Probably should refer to 2 U.S.C. 661c(b).

¹⁰⁸ So in law. Probably should refer to the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992.

SEC. 258. [12 U.S.C. 1715z–24] PILOT PROGRAM FOR AUTOMATED PROCESS FOR BORROWERS WITHOUT SUFFICIENT CREDIT HISTORY.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall carry out a pilot program to establish, and make available to mortgagees, an automated process for providing alternative credit rating information for mortgagors and prospective mortgagors under mortgages on 1- to 4-family residences to be insured under this title who have insufficient credit histories for determining their creditworthiness. Such alternative credit rating information may include rent, utilities, and insurance payment histories, and such other information as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(b) **SCOPE.**—The Secretary may carry out the pilot program under this section on a limited basis or scope, and may consider limiting the program to first-time homebuyers.

(c) **LIMITATION.**—In any fiscal year, the aggregate number of mortgages insured pursuant to the automated process established under this section may not exceed 5 percent of the aggregate number of mortgages for 1- to 4-family residences insured by the Secretary under this title during the preceding fiscal year.

(d) **SUNSET.**—After the expiration of the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Building American Homeownership Act of 2008, the Secretary may not enter into any new commitment to insure any mortgage, or newly insure any mortgage, pursuant to the automated process established under this section.

TITLE III—NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATIONS**PURPOSES**

SEC. 301. [12 U.S.C. 1716] The Congress hereby declares that the purposes of this title are to establish secondary market facilities for residential mortgages, to provide that the operations thereof shall be financed by private capital to the maximum extent feasible, and to authorize such facilities to—

(1) provide stability in the secondary market for residential mortgages;

(2) respond appropriately to the private capital market;

(3) provide ongoing assistance to the secondary market for residential mortgages (including activities relating to mortgages on housing for low- and moderate-income families involving a reasonable economic return that may be less than the return earned on other activities) by increasing the liquidity of mortgage investments and improving the distribution of investment capital available for residential mortgage financing;

(4) promote access to mortgage credit throughout the Nation (including central cities, rural areas, and underserved areas) by increasing the liquidity of mortgage investments and improving the distribution of investment capital available for residential mortgage financing; and

(5) manage and liquidate federally owned mortgage portfolios in an orderly manner, with a minimum of adverse effect upon the residential mortgage market and minimum loss to the Federal Government.

CREATION OF ASSOCIATION

SEC. 302. [12 U.S.C. 1717] (a)(1) There is hereby created a body corporate to be known as the “Federal National Mortgage Association” which shall be in the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Association shall have succession until dissolved by Act of Congress. It shall maintain its principal office in the District of Columbia and shall be deemed, for purposes of venue in civil actions, to be a resident thereof. Agencies or offices may be established by the Association in such other place or places as it may deem necessary or appropriate in the conduct of its business.

(2) On September 1, 1968, the body corporate described in the foregoing paragraph shall cease to exist in that form and is hereby partitioned into two separate and distinct bodies corporate, each of which shall have continuity and corporate succession as a separated portion of the previously existing body corporate, as follows:

(A) One of such separated portions shall be a body corporate without capital stock to be known as the Government National Mortgage Association (hereinafter referred to as the “Association”), which shall be in the Department of Housing and Urban Development and which shall retain the assets and liabilities acquired and incurred under sections 305 and 306 prior to such date, including any and all liabilities incurred pursuant to section 302(c). The Association shall have succession until dissolved by Act of Congress. It shall maintain its principal office in the District of Columbia or the metropolitan area thereof and shall be deemed, for purposes of jurisdiction and venue in civil actions, to be a District of Columbia corporation. Agencies or offices may be established by the Association in such other place or places as it may deem necessary or appropriate in the conduct of its business.

(B) The other such separated portion shall be a body corporate to be known as Federal National Mortgage Association (hereinafter referred to as the “corporation”), which shall retain the assets and liabilities acquired and incurred under sections 303 and 304 prior to such date. The corporation shall have succession until dissolved by Act of Congress. It shall maintain its principal office in the District of Columbia or the metropolitan area thereof and shall be deemed, for purposes of jurisdiction and venue in civil actions to be a District of Columbia corporation.

(3) The partition transaction effected pursuant to the foregoing paragraph constitutes a reorganization within the meaning of section 368(a)(1)(E) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954; and for the purposes of such Code, no gain or loss is recognized by the previously existing body corporate’s by reason of the partition, and the basis and holding period of the assets of the corporation immediately following such partition are the same as the basis and holding period of such assets immediately prior to such partition.

(b)(1) For the purposes set forth in section 301 and subject to the limitations and restrictions of this title, each of the bodies corporate named in subsection (a)(2) is authorized, pursuant to commitments or otherwise, to purchase, service, sell, or otherwise deal in any mortgages which are insured under the National Housing Act or title V of the Housing Act of 1949, or which are insured or guaranteed under the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944 or

chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code; and to purchase, service, sell, or otherwise deal in any loans made or guaranteed under part B of title VI of the Public Health Service Act; and the corporation is authorized to lend on the security of any such mortgages and to purchase, sell, or otherwise deal in any securities guaranteed by the Association under section 306(g): *Provided*, That (1) the Association may not purchase any mortgage at a price exceeding 100 per centum of the unpaid principal amount thereof at the time of purchase, with adjustments for interest and any comparable items; (2) the Association may not purchase any mortgage, except a mortgage insured under title V of the Housing Act of 1949, if it offered by, or covers property held by a State, territorial, or municipal instrumentality; and (3) the Association may not purchase any mortgage under section 305, except a mortgage insured under section 220 or title VIII or section 203(k) or under title X with respect to a new community approved under section 1004 thereof, or insured under section 213 and covering property located in an urban renewal area, or a mortgage covering property located in Alaska, Guam, or Hawaii, if the original principal obligation thereof exceeds or exceeded \$55,000 in the case of property upon which is located a dwelling designed principally for a one-family residence; or \$60,000 in the case of a two- or three-family residence, or \$68,750 in the case of a four-family residence; or in the case of a property containing more than four dwelling units, \$38,000 per dwelling unit (or such higher amount not in excess of \$45,000 per dwelling unit as the Secretary may by regulation specify in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require) for that part of the property (attributable to dwelling use). Notwithstanding the provisions of clause (3) of the preceding sentence, the Association may purchase a mortgage under section 305 with an original principal obligation which exceeds the otherwise applicable maximum amount per dwelling unit if the mortgage is insured under section 207(c)(3), 213(b)(2), 220(d)(3)(B)(iii), 221(d)(3)(ii), 221(d)(4)(ii), 231(c)(2), 234(e)(3), or 236. For the purposes of this title, the term "mortgages" and "home mortgages" shall be inclusive of any mortgages or other loans insured under any of the provisions of the National Housing Act or title V of the Housing Act of 1949.

(2) For the purposes set forth in section 301(a), the corporation is authorized, pursuant to commitments or otherwise, to purchase, service, sell, lend on the security of, or otherwise deal in mortgages which are not insured or guaranteed as provided in paragraph (1) (such mortgages referred to hereinafter as "conventional mortgages"). No such purchase of a conventional mortgage secured by a property comprising one- to four-family dwelling units shall be made if the outstanding principal balance of the mortgage at the time of purchase exceeds 80 per centum of the value of the property securing the mortgage, unless (A) the seller retains a participation of not less than 10 per centum in the mortgage; (B) for such period and under such circumstances as the corporation may require, the seller agrees to repurchase or replace the mortgage upon demand of the corporation in the event that the mortgage is in default; or (C) that portion of the unpaid principal balance of the mortgage which is in excess of such 80 per centum is guaranteed

or insured by a qualified insurer as determined by the corporation. The corporation shall not issue a commitment to purchase a conventional mortgage prior to the date the mortgage is originated, if such mortgage is eligible for purchase under the preceding sentence only by reason of compliance with the requirements of clause (A) of such sentence. The corporation may purchase a conventional mortgage which was originated more than one year prior to the purchase date only if the seller is the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Resolution Trust Corporation, the National Credit Union Administration, or any other seller currently engaged in mortgage lending or investing activities. For the purpose of this section, the term "conventional mortgages" shall include a mortgage, lien, or other security interest on the stock or membership certificate issued to a tenant-stockholder or resident-member of a cooperative housing corporation, as defined in section 216 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and on the proprietary lease, occupancy agreement, or right of tenancy in the dwelling unit of the tenant-stockholder or resident-member in such cooperative housing corporation. The corporation shall establish limitations governing the maximum original principal obligation of conventional mortgages that are purchased by it; in any case in which the corporation purchases a participation interest in such a mortgage, the limitation shall be calculated with respect to the total original principal obligation of the mortgage and not merely with respect to the interest purchased by the corporation. Such limitations shall not exceed \$417,000 for a mortgage secured by a single-family residence, \$533,850 for a mortgage secured by a 2-family residence, \$645,300 for a mortgage secured by a 3-family residence, and \$801,950 for a mortgage secured by a 4-family residence, except that such maximum limitations shall be adjusted effective January 1 of each year beginning after the effective date of the Federal Housing Finance Regulatory Reform Act of 2008, subject to the limitations in this paragraph. Each adjustment shall be made by adding to each such amount (as it may have been previously adjusted) a percentage thereof equal to the percentage increase, during the most recent 12-month or 4-quarter period ending before the time of determining such annual adjustment, in the housing price index maintained by the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency (pursuant to section 1322 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4541¹⁰⁹)). If the change in such house price index during the most recent 12-month or 4-quarter period ending before the time of determining such annual adjustment is a decrease, then no adjustment shall be made for the next year, and the next adjustment shall take into account prior declines in the house price index, so that any adjustment shall reflect the net change in the house price index since the last adjustment. Declines in the house price index shall be accumulated and then reduce increases until subsequent increases exceed prior declines. The foregoing limitations may be increased by not to exceed 50 per centum with respect to properties located in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, and the Virgin Islands. Such foregoing limitations shall also be increased, with respect to properties of a par-

¹⁰⁹ So in law. Probably should refer to 12 U.S.C. 4542.

ticular size located in any area for which 115 percent of the median house price for such size residence exceeds the foregoing limitation for such size residence, to the lesser of 150 percent of such limitation for such size residence or the amount that is equal to 115 percent of the median house price in such area for such size residence.

(3)¹¹⁰ The corporation is authorized to purchase, service, sell, lend on the security of, and otherwise deal in loans or advances of credit for the purchase and installation of home improvements, including energy conserving improvements or solar energy systems described in the last paragraph of section 2(a) of the National Housing Act and residential energy conservation measures as described in section 210(11) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act and financed by a public utility in accordance with the requirements of title II of such Act. To be eligible for purchase, any such loan or advance of credit (other than a loan or advance made with respect to energy conserving improvements or solar energy systems or residential energy conservation measures) not insured under title I of the National Housing Act shall be secured by a lien against the property to be improved.

(4)¹¹¹ The corporation is authorized to purchase, service, sell, lend on the security of, and otherwise deal in loans or advances of credit secured by mortgages or other liens against manufactured homes.

(5)(A) The corporation is authorized to purchase, service, sell, lend on the security of, and otherwise deal in (i) conventional mortgages that are secured by a subordinate lien against a one-to-four-family residence that is the principal residence of the mortgagor; and (ii) conventional mortgages that are secured by a subordinate lien against a property comprising five or more family dwelling units. If the corporation, pursuant to paragraphs (1) through (4), shall have purchased, serviced, sold, or otherwise dealt with any other outstanding mortgage secured by the same residence, the aggregate original amount of such other mortgage and the mortgage authorized to be purchased, serviced, sold, or otherwise dealt with under this paragraph shall not exceed the applicable limitation determined under paragraph (2).

(B) The corporation shall establish limitations governing the maximum original principal obligation of conventional mortgages described in subparagraph (A). In any case in which the corporation purchases a participation interest in such a mortgage, the limitation shall be calculated with respect to the total original principal obligation of such mortgage described in subparagraph (A) and

¹¹⁰Section 246 of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act, Pub. L. 95-619, approved November 9, 1978, added this paragraph. It was amended and rewritten by section 339(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-399, approved October 8, 1980. Section 339(a)(2) of such Act provides, in part, as follows: "When the Federal National Mortgage Association submits its proposal to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to implement the authority granted by the amendment made by this paragraph, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, within 75 days, approve such proposal or transmit to the Congress a report explaining why such proposal has not been approved."

¹¹¹Paragraph (4) was added by section 339(b) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-399, approved October 8, 1980, which also provides, in part, as follows: "When the Federal National Mortgage Association submits its proposal to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to implement the authority granted by the amendment made by this paragraph, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, within 75 days, approve such proposal or transmit to the Congress a report explaining why such proposal has not been approved."

not merely with respect to the interest purchased by the corporation. Such limitations shall not exceed (i) with respect to mortgages described in subparagraph (A)(i), 50 per centum of the single-family residence mortgage limitation determined under paragraph (2); and (ii) with respect to mortgages described in subparagraph (A)(ii), the applicable limitation determined under paragraph (2).

(C) No subordinate mortgage against a one- to four-family residence shall be purchased by the corporation if the total outstanding indebtedness secured by the property as a result of such mortgage exceeds 80 per centum of the value of such property unless (i) that portion of such total outstanding indebtedness that exceeds such 80 per centum is guaranteed or insured by a qualified insurer as determined by the corporation; (ii) the seller retains a participation of not less than 10 per centum in the mortgage; or (iii) for such period and under such circumstances as the corporation may require, the seller agrees to repurchase or replace the mortgage upon demand of the corporation in the event that the mortgage is in default. The corporation shall not issue a commitment to purchase a subordinate mortgage prior to the date the mortgage is originated, if such mortgage is eligible for purchase under the preceding sentence only by reason of compliance with the requirements of clause (ii) of such sentence.

(6) The corporation may not implement any new program (as such term is defined in section 1303 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992) before obtaining the approval of the Secretary under section 1322 of such Act.

(7)(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

(i) the term “credit score” means a numerical value or a categorization created by a third party derived from a statistical tool or modeling system used by a person who makes or arranges a loan to predict the likelihood of certain credit behaviors, including default; and

(ii) the term “residential mortgage” has the meaning given the term in section 302 of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1451).

(B) USE OF CREDIT SCORES.—The corporation shall condition purchase of a residential mortgage by the corporation under this subsection on the provision of a credit score for the borrower only if—

(i) the credit score is derived from any credit scoring model that has been validated and approved by the corporation under this paragraph; and

(ii) the corporation provides for the use of the credit score by all of the automated underwriting systems of the corporation and any other procedures and systems used by the corporation to purchase residential mortgages that use a credit score.

(C) VALIDATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS.—The corporation shall establish a validation and approval process for the use of credit score models, under which the corporation may not validate and approve a credit score model unless the credit score model—

(i) satisfies minimum requirements of integrity, reliability, and accuracy;

(ii) has a historical record of measuring and predicting default rates and other credit behaviors;

(iii) is consistent with the safe and sound operation of the corporation;

(iv) complies with any standards and criteria established by the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency under section 1328(1) of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992; and

(v) satisfies any other requirements, as determined by the corporation.

(D) REPLACEMENT OF CREDIT SCORE MODEL.—If the corporation has validated and approved 1 or more credit score models under subparagraph (C) and the corporation validates and approves an additional credit score model, the corporation may determine that—

(i) the additional credit score model has replaced the credit score model or credit score models previously validated and approved; and

(ii) the credit score model or credit score models previously validated and approved shall no longer be considered validated and approved for the purposes of subparagraph (B).

(E) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.—Upon establishing the validation and approval process required under subparagraph (C), the corporation shall make publicly available a description of the validation and approval process.

(F) APPLICATION.—Not later than 30 days after the effective date of this paragraph, the corporation shall solicit applications from developers of credit scoring models for the validation and approval of those models under the process required under subparagraph (C).

(G) TIMEFRAME FOR DETERMINATION; NOTICE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The corporation shall make a determination with respect to any application submitted under subparagraph (F), and provide notice of that determination to the applicant, before a date established by the corporation that is not later than 180 days after the date on which an application is submitted to the corporation.

(ii) EXTENSIONS.—The Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency may authorize not more than 2 extensions of the date established under clause (i), each of which shall not exceed 30 days, upon a written request and a showing of good cause by the corporation.

(iii) STATUS NOTICE.—The corporation shall provide notice to an applicant regarding the status of an application submitted under subparagraph (F) not later than 60 days after the date on which the application was submitted to the corporation.

(iv) REASONS FOR DISAPPROVAL.—If an application submitted under subparagraph (F) is disapproved, the corporation shall provide to the applicant the reasons for the disapproval not later than 30 days after a determination is made under this subparagraph.

(H) AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR.—If the corporation elects to use a credit score model under this paragraph, the Director of the Fed-

eral Housing Finance Agency shall require the corporation to periodically review the validation and approval process required under subparagraph (C) as the Director determines necessary to ensure that the process remains appropriate and adequate and complies with any standards and criteria established pursuant to section 1328(1) of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992.

(I) EXTENSION.—If, as of the effective date of this paragraph, a credit score model has not been approved under subparagraph (C), the corporation may use a credit score model that was in use before the effective date of this paragraph, if necessary to prevent substantial market disruptions, until the earlier of—

(i) the date on which a credit score model is validated and approved under subparagraph (C); or

(ii) the date that is 2 years after the effective date of this paragraph.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or of any other law, the Association is authorized under section 306 to create, accept, execute, and otherwise administer in all respects such trusts, receiverships, conservatorships, liquidating or other agencies, or other fiduciary and representative undertakings and activities, hereinafter in this subsection called “trusts”, as might be appropriate for financing purposes; and in relation thereto the Association may acquire, hold and manage, dispose of, and otherwise deal in any mortgages or other types of obligations in which any department or agency of the United States listed in paragraph (2) of this subsection may have a financial interest. The Association may join in any such undertakings and activities notwithstanding that it is also serving in a fiduciary or representative capacity; and is authorized to guarantee any participations or other instruments, whether evidence of property rights or debt, issued for such financing purposes. Participations or other instruments issued by the Association pursuant to this subsection shall to the same extent as securities which are direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed as to principal or interest by the United States be deemed to be exempt securities within the meaning of laws administered by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The amounts of any mortgages and other obligations acquired by the Association under section 306, pursuant to this subsection, shall not be included in the total amounts set forth in section 306(c).

(2) Subject to the limitations provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, one or more trusts may be established as provided in this subsection by each of the following departments or agencies:

(A) The Farmers Home Administration of the Department of Agriculture, but only with respect to operating loans, direct farm ownership loans, direct housing loans, and direct soil and water loans. Such trusts may not be established with respect to loans for housing for the elderly under sections 502 and 515(a) of the Housing Act of 1949, nor with respect to loans for nonfarm recreational development.

(B) The Department of Education, but only with respect to loans made by the Secretary of Education for construction of academic facilities, and loans to help finance student loan programs.

- (C) The Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- (D) The Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (E) The Export-Import Bank.
- (F) The Small Business Administration.

The head of each such department or agency, hereinafter in this subsection called the "trustor", is authorized to set aside a part or all of any obligations held by the trustor and subject them to a trust or trusts and, incident thereto, shall guarantee to the trustee timely payment thereof. The trust instrument may provide for the issuance and sale of beneficial interests or participations, by the trustee, in such obligations or in the right to receive interest and principal collections therefrom; and may provide for the substitution or withdrawal of such obligations, or for the substitution of cash for obligations. The trust or trusts shall be exempt from all taxation. The trust instrument may also contain other appropriate provisions in keeping with the purposes of this subsection. The Association shall be named and shall act as trustee of any such trusts and, for the purposes thereof, the title to such obligations shall be deemed to have passed to the Association in trust. The trust instrument shall provide that custody, control, and administration of the obligations shall remain in the trustor subjecting the obligations to the trust, subject to transfer to the trustee in event of default or probable default, as determined by the trustee, in the payment of principal and interest of the beneficial interests or participations. Collections from obligations subject to the trusts shall be dealt with as provided in the instrument creating the trust. The trust instrument shall provide that the trustee will promptly pay to the trustor the full net proceeds of any sale of beneficial interests or participations to the extent they are based upon such obligations or collections. Such proceeds shall be dealt with as otherwise provided by law for sales or repayment of such obligations. The effect of both past and future sales of any issue of beneficial interests or participations shall be the same, to the extent of the principal of such issue, as the direct sale with recourse of the obligations subject to the trust. Any trustor creating a trust or trusts hereunder is authorized to purchase, through the facilities of the trustee, outstanding beneficial interests or participations to the extent of the amount of the trustor's responsibility to the trustee on beneficial interests or participations outstanding, and to pay the trustor's proper share of the costs and expenses incurred by the Association as trustee pursuant to the trust instrument.

(3) When any trustor guarantees to the trustee the timely payment of obligations the trustor subjects to a trust pursuant to this subsection, and it becomes necessary for such trustor to meet his responsibilities under such guaranty, the trustor is authorized to fulfill such guaranty.

(4) Beneficial interests or participations shall not be issued for the account of any trustor in an aggregate principal amount greater than is authorized with respect to such trustor in an appropriation Act. Any such authorization shall remain available only for the fiscal year for which it is granted and for the succeeding fiscal year.

(5) The Association, as trustee, is authorized to issue and sell beneficial interests or participations under this subsection, notwith-

standing that there may be insufficiency in aggregate receipts from obligations subject to the related trust to provide for the payment by the trustee (on a timely basis out of current receipts or otherwise) of all interest or principal on such interests or participations (after provision for all costs and expenses incurred by the trustee, fairly prorated among trustors). There are authorized to be appropriated without fiscal year limitation such sums as may be necessary to enable any trustor to pay the trustee such insufficiency as the trustee may require on account of outstanding beneficial interests or participations authorized to be issued pursuant to paragraph (4) of this subsection. Such trustor shall make timely payments to the trustee from such appropriations, subject to and in accord with the trust instrument. In the event that the insufficiency required by the trustee is on account of principal maturities of outstanding beneficial interests or participations authorized to be issued pursuant to paragraph (4) of this subsection, or pursuant hereto, the trustee is authorized to elect to issue additional beneficial interests or participations for refinancing purposes in lieu of requiring any trustor or trustors to make payments to the trustee from appropriated funds or other sources. Each such issue of beneficial interests or participations shall be in an amount determined by the trustee but not in excess of the aggregate amount which the trustee would otherwise require the trustor or trustors to pay from appropriated funds or other sources, and may be issued without regard to the provisions of paragraph (4) of this subsection. All refinancing issues of beneficial interests or participations shall be deemed to have been issued pursuant to the authority contained in the appropriation Act or Acts under which the beneficial interests or participations were originally issued.

CAPITALIZATION—FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

SEC. 303. [12 U.S.C. 1718] (a) The corporation shall have common stock, without par value, which shall be vested with all voting rights, each share being entitled to one vote with rights of cumulative voting at all elections of directors. The corporation may eliminate such rights of cumulative voting by a resolution adopted by its board of directors and approved by the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock voting in person or by proxy at the annual meeting, or other special meeting, at which such resolution is considered. The corporation may have preferred stock on such terms and conditions as the board of directors shall prescribe. The free transferability of the stock at all times to any person, firm, corporation, or other entity shall not be restricted except that, as to the corporation, it shall be transferable only on the books of the corporation. The corporation may issue shares of common stock in return for appropriate payments into capital or capital and surplus.

(b)(1) The corporation may impose charges or fees, which may be regarded as elements of pricing, with the objective that all costs and expenses of the operations of the corporation should be within its income derived from such operations and that such operations should be fully self-supporting.

(2) All earnings from the operations of the corporation shall annually be transferred to the general surplus account of the corpora-

tion. At any time, funds of the general surplus account may, in the discretion of the board of directors, be transferred to reserves.

(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the corporation may make such capital distributions (as such term is defined in section 1303 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992) as may be declared by the board of directors. All capital distributions shall be charged against the general surplus account of the corporation.

(2) The corporation may not make any capital distribution that would decrease the total capital of the corporation (as such term is defined in section 1303 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992) to an amount less than the risk-based capital level for the corporation established under section 1361 of such Act or that would decrease the core capital of the corporation (as such term is defined in section 1303 of such Act) to an amount less than the minimum capital level for the corporation established under section 1362 of such Act, without prior written approval of the distribution by the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any institution, including a national bank or State member bank of the Federal Reserve System or any member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, trust company, or other banking organization, organized under any law of the United States, including the laws relating to the District of Columbia, shall be authorized to purchase shares of common stock of the corporation and to hold or dispose of such stock, subject to the provisions of this title.

SECONDARY MARKET OPERATIONS—FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE
ASSOCIATION

SEC. 304. [12 U.S.C. 1719] (a)(1) To carry out the purposes set forth in paragraph (a) of section 301, the operations of the corporation under this section shall be confined so far as practicable, to mortgages which are deemed by the corporation to be of such quality, type, and class as to meet, generally, the purchase standards imposed by private institutional mortgage investors. In the interest of assuring sound operation, the prices to be paid by the corporation for mortgages purchased in its secondary market operations under this section, should be established, from time to time, within the range of market prices for the particular class of mortgages involved, as determined by the corporation.

The volume of the corporation's purchases and sales, and the establishment of the purchase prices, sale prices, and charges or fees, in its secondary market operations under this section, should be determined by the corporation from time to time, and such determinations should be consistent with the objectives that such purchases and sales should be effected only at such prices and on such terms as will reasonably prevent excessive use of the corporation's facilities, and that the operations of the corporation under this section should be within its income derived from such operations and that such operations should be fully self-supporting. Nothing in this title shall prohibit the corporation from purchasing, and making commitments to purchase, any mortgage with respect

to which the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development has entered into a contract with the corporation to make interest subsidy payments under section 243 of the National Housing Act.

(2) The volume of the corporation's lending activities and the establishment of its loan ratios, interest rates, maturities, and charges or fees in its secondary market operations under this section, should be determined by the corporation from time to time; and such determinations, in conjunction with determinations made under paragraph (1), should be consistent with the objectives that the lending activities should be conducted on such terms as will reasonably prevent excessive use of the corporation's facilities, and that the operations of the corporation under this section should be within its income derived from such operations and that such operations should be fully self-supporting. The corporation shall not be permitted to use its lending authority (A) to advance funds to a mortgage seller on an interim basis, using mortgage loans as collateral, pending the sale of the mortgages in the secondary market; or (B) to originate mortgage loans. Notwithstanding any Federal, State, or other law to the contrary, the corporation is hereby empowered, in connection with any loan under this section, whether before or after any default, to provide by contract with the borrower for the settlement or extinguishment, upon default, of any redemption, equitable, legal, or other right, title, or interest of the borrower in any mortgage or mortgages that constitute the security for the loan; and with respect to any such loan, in the event of default and pursuant otherwise to the terms of the contract, the mortgages that constitute such security shall become the absolute property of the corporation.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the corporation is authorized to issue, upon the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, and have outstanding at any one time obligations having such maturities and bearing such rate or rates of interest as may be determined by the corporation with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, to be redeemable at the option of the corporation before maturity in such manner as may be stipulated in such obligations. The corporation shall insert appropriate language in all of its obligations issued under this subsection clearly indicating that such obligations, together with the interest thereon, are not guaranteed by the United States and do not constitute a debt or obligation of the United States or of any agency or instrumentality thereof other than the corporation. The corporation is authorized to purchase in the open market any of its obligations outstanding under this subsection at any time and at any price.

(c) The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized in the Secretary's discretion to purchase any obligations issued pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, as now or hereafter in force, and for such purpose the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to use as a public debt transaction the proceeds of the sale of any securities hereafter issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, and the purposes for which securities may be issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, are extended to include such purchases. The Secretary of the Treasury shall not at any time purchase any obligations under this subsection if such purchase would increase the aggregate principal amount of the Secretary's

then outstanding holding of such obligations under this subsection to an amount greater than \$2,250,000,000. Each purchase of obligations by the Secretary of the Treasury under this subsection shall be upon such terms and conditions as to yield a return at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the current average rate on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States as of the last day of the month preceding the making of such purchase. The Secretary of the Treasury may, at any time, sell, upon such terms and conditions and at such price or prices as the Secretary shall determine, any of the obligations acquired by the Secretary under this subsection. All redemptions, purchases and sales by the Secretary of the Treasury of such obligations under this subsection shall be treated as public debt transactions of the United States.

(d) To provide a greater degree of liquidity to the mortgage investment market and an additional means of financing its operations under this section, the corporation is authorized to set aside any mortgages held by it under this section, and, upon approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, to issue and sell securities based upon the mortgages so set aside. Securities issued under this subsection may be in the form of debt obligations or trust certificates of beneficial interest, or both. Securities issued under this subsection shall have such maturities and bear such rate or rates of interest as may be determined by the corporation with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. Securities issued by the corporation under this subsection shall, to the same extent as securities which are direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, be deemed to be exempt securities within the meaning of laws administered by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Mortgages set aside pursuant to this subsection shall at all times be adequate to enable the corporation to make timely principal and interest payments on the securities issued and sold pursuant to this subsection. The corporation shall insert appropriate language in all of the securities issued under this subsection clearly indicating that such securities, together with the interest thereon, are not guaranteed by the United States and do not constitute a debt or obligation of the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof other than the corporation.

(e) For the purposes of this section, the corporation is authorized to issue, upon the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, obligations which are subordinated to any or all other obligations of the corporation, including subsequent obligations. The obligations issued under this subsection shall have such maturities and bear such rate or rates of interest as may be determined by the corporation with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury and may be made redeemable at the option of the corporation before maturity in such manner as may be stipulated in such obligations. Any of such obligations may be made convertible into shares of common stock in such manner, at such price or prices, and at such time or times as may be stipulated therein. Obligations issued by the corporation under this subsection shall, to the same extent as securities which are direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed as to principal or interest by the United States, be deemed to be

exempt securities within the meaning of laws administered by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The corporation shall insert appropriate language in all of its obligations issued under this subsection clearly indicating that such obligations, together with the interest thereon, are not guaranteed by the United States and do not constitute a debt or obligation of the United States or of any agency or instrumentality thereof other than the corporation. The corporation is authorized to purchase in the open market any of its obligations outstanding under this subsection at any time and at any price.

(f) Except for fees paid pursuant to section 309(g) of this Act and assessments pursuant to section 1316 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, no fee or charge may be assessed or collected by the United States (including any executive department, agency, or independent establishment of the United States) on or with regard to the purchase, acquisition, sale, pledge, issuance, guarantee, or redemption of any mortgage, asset, obligation, trust certificate of beneficial interest, or other security by the corporation. No provision of this subsection shall affect the purchase of any obligation by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to subsection (c).

(g) TEMPORARY AUTHORITY OF TREASURY TO PURCHASE OBLIGATIONS AND SECURITIES; CONDITIONS.—

(1) AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE.—

(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In addition to the authority under subsection (c) of this section, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to purchase any obligations and other securities issued by the corporation under any section of this Act, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine and in such amounts as the Secretary may determine. Nothing in this subsection requires the corporation to issue obligations or securities to the Secretary without mutual agreement between the Secretary and the corporation. Nothing in this subsection permits or authorizes the Secretary, without the agreement of the corporation, to engage in open market purchases of the common securities of the corporation.

(B) EMERGENCY DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—In connection with any use of this authority, the Secretary must determine that such actions are necessary to—

- (i) provide stability to the financial markets;
- (ii) prevent disruptions in the availability of mortgage finance; and
- (iii) protect the taxpayer.

(C) CONSIDERATIONS.—To protect the taxpayers, the Secretary of the Treasury shall take into consideration the following in connection with exercising the authority contained in this paragraph:

- (i) The need for preferences or priorities regarding payments to the Government.
- (ii) Limits on maturity or disposition of obligations or securities to be purchased.

(iii) The corporation's plan for the orderly resumption of private market funding or capital market access.

(iv) The probability of the corporation fulfilling the terms of any such obligation or other security, including repayment.

(v) The need to maintain the corporation's status as a private shareholder-owned company.

(vi) Restrictions on the use of corporation resources, including limitations on the payment of dividends and executive compensation and any such other terms and conditions as appropriate for those purposes.

(D) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Upon exercise of this authority, the Secretary shall report to the Committees on the Budget, Financial Services, and Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committees on the Budget, Finance, and Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate as to the necessity for the purchase and the determinations made by the Secretary under subparagraph (B) and with respect to the considerations required under subparagraph (C), and the size, terms, and probability of repayment or fulfillment of other terms of such purchase.

(2) RIGHTS; SALE OF OBLIGATIONS AND SECURITIES.—

(A) EXERCISE OF RIGHTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may, at any time, exercise any rights received in connection with such purchases.

(B) SALE OF OBLIGATION AND SECURITIES.—The Secretary of the Treasury may, at any time, subject to the terms of the security or otherwise upon terms and conditions and at prices determined by the Secretary, sell any obligation or security acquired by the Secretary under this subsection.

(C) DEFICIT REDUCTION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall deposit in the General Fund of the Treasury any amounts received by the Secretary from the sale of any obligation acquired by the Secretary under this subsection, where such amounts shall be—

(i) dedicated for the sole purpose of deficit reduction; and

(ii) prohibited from use as an offset for other spending increases or revenue reductions.

(D) APPLICATION OF SUNSET TO PURCHASED OBLIGATIONS OR SECURITIES.—The authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to hold, exercise any rights received in connection with, or sell, any obligations or securities purchased is not subject to the provisions of paragraph (4).

(3) FUNDING.—For the purpose of the authorities granted in this subsection, the Secretary of the Treasury may use the proceeds of the sale of any securities issued under chapter 31 of Title 31,¹¹² and the purposes for which securities may be

¹¹² So in law. Probably should refer to title 31, United States Code.

issued under chapter 31 of Title 31¹¹² are extended to include such purchases and the exercise of any rights in connection with such purchases. Any funds expended for the purchase of, or modifications to, obligations and securities, or the exercise of any rights received in connection with such purchases under this subsection shall be deemed appropriated at the time of such purchase, modification, or exercise.

(4) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority under this subsection (g), with the exception of paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, shall expire December 31, 2009.

(5) AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR WITH RESPECT TO EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.—The Director shall have the power to approve, disapprove, or modify the executive compensation of the corporation, as defined under Regulation S-K, 17 C.F.R. 229.

**[SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUNCTIONS—GOVERNMENT NATIONAL
MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION]**

[SEC. 305. [Repealed.]]

**MANAGEMENT AND LIQUIDATION FUNCTIONS—GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION**

SEC. 306. **[12 U.S.C. 1721]** (a) To carry out the purposes set forth in paragraph (c) of section 301, the Association is authorized and directed, as of the close of the cutoff date determined by the Association pursuant to section 303(d) of this title, to establish separate accountability for all of its assets and liabilities (exclusive of capital, surplus, surplus reserves, and undistributed earnings to be evidenced by preferred stock as provided in section 303(d) hereof, but inclusive of all rights and obligations under any outstanding contracts), and to maintain such separate accountability for the management and orderly liquidation of such assets and liabilities as provided in this section.

(b) For the purposes of this section and to assure that, to the maximum extent, and as rapidly as possible, private financing will be substituted for Treasury borrowings otherwise required to carry mortgages held under the aforesaid separate accountability, the Association is authorized to issue, upon the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, and have outstanding at any one time obligations having such maturities and bearing such rate or rates of interest as may be determined by the Association with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, to be redeemable at the option, of the Association before maturity in such manner as may be stipulated in such obligations; but in no event shall any such obligations be issued if, at the time of such proposed issuance, and as a consequence thereof, the resulting aggregate amount of its outstanding obligations under this subsection would exceed the amount of the Association's ownership under the aforesaid separate accountability, free from any liens or encumbrances, of cash, mortgages, and obligations of the United States or guaranteed thereby, or obligations, participations, or other instruments which are lawful investments for fiduciary, trust, or public funds. The proceeds of any private financing effected under this subsection shall be paid to the Secretary of the Treasury in reduction of the indebtedness of the

Association to the Secretary of the Treasury under the aforesaid separate accountability. The Association shall insert appropriate language in all of its obligations issued under this subsection clearly indicating that such obligations, together with the interest thereon, are not guaranteed by the United States and do not constitute a debt or obligation of the United States or of any agency or instrumentality thereof other than the Association. The Association is authorized to purchase in the open market any of its obligations outstanding under this subsection at any time and at any price.

(c) No mortgage shall be purchased by the Association in its operations under this section except pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of a contract or commitment to purchase the same made prior to the cutoff date provided for in section 303(d), which contract or commitment became a part of the aforesaid separate accountability, and the total amount of mortgages and commitments held by the Association under this section shall not, in any event, exceed \$3,350,000,000: *Provided*, That such maximum amount shall be progressively reduced by the amount of cash realizations on account of principal of mortgages held under the aforesaid separate accountability and by cancellation of any commitments to purchase mortgages thereunder, as reflected by the books of the Association, with the objective that the entire aforesaid maximum amount shall be eliminated with the orderly liquidation of all mortgages held under the aforesaid separate accountability: *And provided further*, That nothing in this subsection shall preclude the Association from granting such usual and customary increases in the amounts of outstanding commitments (resulting from increased costs or otherwise) as have theretofore been covered by like increases in commitments granted by the agencies of the Federal Government insuring or guaranteeing the mortgages. There shall be excluded from the total amounts set forth in this subsection the amounts of any mortgages which, subsequent to May 31, 1954, are transferred by law to the Association and held under the aforesaid separate accountability.

(d) The Association may issue to the Secretary of the Treasury its obligations in an amount outstanding at any one time sufficient to enable the Association to carry out its functions under this section, such obligations to mature not more than five years from their respective dates of issue, to be redeemable at the option of the Association before maturity in such manner as may be stipulated in such obligations. Each such obligation shall bear interest at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the current average rate on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States as of the last day of the month preceding the issuance of the obligation of the Association. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to purchase any obligations of the Association to be issued under this section, and for such purpose the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to use as a public debt transaction the proceeds from the sale of any securities issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, and the purposes for which securities may be issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, are extended to include any purchases of the Association's obligations hereunder.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Association is authorized, under the aforesaid separate accountability, to make commitments to purchase, and to purchase, service, or sell any obligations offered to it by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or any mortgages covering residential property offered to it by any Federal instrumentality, or the head thereof.¹¹³ There shall be excluded from the total amounts set forth in subsection (c) the amounts of any obligations or mortgages purchased by the Association pursuant to this subsection.

(f) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Act or of any other law, an amount equal to the net decrease for the preceding fiscal year in the aggregate principal amount of all mortgages owned by the Association under this section shall, as of July 1 of each of the years 1961 through 1964, be transferred to and merged with the authority provided under section 305(a), and the amount of such authority as specified in section 305(c) shall be increased by an amount so transferred.

(g)(1) The Association is authorized, upon such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate, to guarantee the timely payment of principal of and interest on such trust certificates or other securities as shall (i) be issued by the corporation under section 304(d), or by any other issuer approved for the purposes of this subsection by the Association, and (ii) be based on and backed by a trust or pool composed of mortgages which are insured under the National Housing Act, or which are insured or guaranteed under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, title V of the Housing Act of 1949, or chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code; or guaranteed under section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992. The Association shall collect from the issuer a reasonable fee for any guaranty under this subsection and shall make such charges as it may determine to be reasonable for the analysis of any trust or other security arrangement proposed by the issuer. In the event the issuer is unable to make any payment of principal of or interest on any security guaranteed under this subsection, the Association shall make such payment as and when due in cash, and thereupon shall be subrogated fully to the rights satisfied by such payment. In any case in which (I) Federal law requires the reduction of the interest rate on any mortgage backing a security guaranteed under this subsection, (II) the mortgagor under the mortgage is a person in the military service, and (III) the issuer of such security fails to receive from the mortgagor the full amount of interest payment due, the Association may make payments of interest on the security in amounts not exceeding the difference between the amount payable under the interest rate on the mortgage

¹¹³ Section 306(b) of the Housing Act of 1959, Pub. L. 86-372, approved September 23, 1959, 12 U.S.C. 1721 note, provides as follows:

"(b) In connection with the sale of any mortgages to the Federal National Mortgage Association pursuant to section 306(e) of the Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act, the Housing and Home Finance Administrator is authorized and any other official unit, or agency selling such mortgages thereunder is directed, to transfer to the Association from time to time, from authorizations, limitations, and funds available for administrative expenses of such official, unit, or agency in connection with the same mortgages, such amounts thereof as said Administrator determines to be required for administrative expenses of the Association in connection with the purchase, servicing, and sale of such mortgages: *Provided*, That no such transfer shall be made after a budget estimate of the Association with respect to the same mortgages has been submitted to and finally acted upon by the Congress."

and the amount of interest actually paid by the mortgagor. The Association is hereby empowered, in connection with any guaranty under this subsection, whether before or after any default, to provide by contract with the issuer for the extinguishment, upon default by the issuer, of any redemption, equitable, legal, or other right, title, or interest of the issuer in any mortgage or mortgages constituting the trust or pool against which the guaranteed securities are issued; and with respect to any issue of guaranteed securities, in the event of default and pursuant otherwise to the terms of the contract, the mortgages that constitute such trust or pool shall become the absolute property of the Association subject only to the unsatisfied rights of the holders of the securities based on and backed by such trust or pool. No State or local law, and no Federal law (except Federal law enacted expressly in limitation of this subsection after the effective date of this sentence), shall preclude or limit the exercise by the Association of (A) its power to contract with the issuer on the terms stated in the preceding sentence, (B) its rights to enforce any such contract with the issuer, or (C) its ownership rights, as provided in the preceding sentence, in the mortgages constituting the trust or pool against which the guaranteed securities are issued. The full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the payment of all amounts which may be required to be paid under any guaranty under this subsection. There shall be excluded from the total amounts set forth in subsection (c) the amounts of any mortgages acquired by the Association as a result of its operations under this subsection.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject only to the absence of qualified requests for guarantees, to the authority provided in this subsection, and to the extent of or in such amounts as any funding limitation approved in appropriation Acts, the Association shall enter into commitments to issue guarantees under this subsection in an aggregate amount of \$110,000,000,000 during fiscal year 1996. There are authorized to be appropriated to cover the costs (as such term is defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974) of guarantees issued under this Act by the Association such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 1996.

(3)(A) No fee or charge in excess of 6 basis points may be assessed or collected by the United States (including any executive department, agency, or independent establishment of the United States) on or with regard to any guaranty of the timely payment of principal or interest on securities or notes based on or backed by mortgages that are secured by 1- to 4-family dwellings and (i) insured by the Federal Housing Administration under title II of the National Housing Act; or (ii) insured or guaranteed under the Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944, chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, or title V of the Housing Act of 1949.

(B) The fees charged for the guaranty of securities or on notes based on or backed by mortgages not referred to in subparagraph (A), as authorized by other provisions of law, shall be set by the Association at a level not more than necessary to create reserves sufficient to meet anticipated claims based upon actuarial analysis, and for no other purpose.

(C) Fees or charges for the issuance of commitments or miscellaneous administrative fees of the Association shall not be on a competitive auction basis and shall remain at the level set for such fees or charges as of September 1, 1985, except that such fees or charges may be increased if reasonably related to the cost of administering the program, and for no other purpose.

(D) Not less than 90 days before increasing any fee or charge under subparagraph (B) or (C), the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a certification that such increase is solely for the purpose specified in such subparagraph.

(E)(i) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (D), fees charged for the guarantee of, or commitment to guarantee, multiclass securities backed by a trust or pool of securities or notes guaranteed by the Association under this subsection, and other related fees shall be charged by the Association in an amount the Association deems appropriate. The Association shall take such action as may be necessary to reasonably assure that such portion of the benefit, resulting from the Association's multiclass securities program, as the Association determines is appropriate accrues to mortgagors who execute eligible mortgages after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph.

(ii) The Association shall provide for the initial implementation of the program for which fees are charged under the first sentence of clause (i) by notice published in the Federal Register. The notice shall be effective upon publication and shall provide an opportunity for public comment. Not later than 12 months after publication of the notice, the Association shall issue regulations for such program based on the notice, comments received, and the experience of the Association in carrying out the program during such period.

(iii) The Association shall consult with persons or entities in such manner as the Association deems appropriate to ensure the efficient commencement and operation of the multiclass securities program.

(iv) No State or local law, and no Federal law (except Federal law enacted expressly in limitation of this clause after the effective date of this subparagraph) shall preclude or limit the exercise by the Association of its power to contract with persons or entities, and its rights to enforce such contracts, for the purpose of ensuring the efficient commencement and continued operation of the multiclass securities program.¹¹⁴

SEPARATE ACCOUNTABILITY

SEC. 307. [12 U.S.C. 1722] All of the benefits and burdens incident to the administration of the functions and operations of the Association under sections 305 and 306, respectively, of this title, after allowance for related obligations of the Association, its prorated expenses, and the like, including amounts required for the es-

¹¹⁴The Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1995, Pub. L. 103-327, 108 Stat. 2315, provides as follows:

"Beginning fiscal year 1995, the Government National Mortgage Association shall permit Ginnie Mae II mortgage-backed securities to be eligible as collateral for multiclass securities that such Association guarantees, in accordance with the Notice published at 59 Fed. Reg. 27290 (May 26, 1994) and successor Notices."

tablishment of such reserves as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall deem appropriate, shall inure solely to the Secretary of the Treasury, and such related earnings or other amounts as become available shall be paid annually by the Association to the Secretary of the Treasury for covering into miscellaneous receipts.

MANAGEMENT

SEC. 308. [12 U.S.C. 1723] (a) All the powers and duties of the Government National Mortgage Association shall be vested in the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Association shall be administered under the direction of the Secretary. Within the limitations of law, the Secretary shall determine the general policies which shall govern the operations of the Association, and shall have power to adopt, amend and repeal by laws governing the performance of the powers and duties granted to or imposed upon it by law.

There is hereby established in the Department of Housing and Urban Development the position of President, Government National Mortgage Association, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Secretary shall select and effect the appointment of qualified persons to fill the offices of vice president, and such other offices as may be provided for in the bylaws. Persons appointed under the preceding sentence shall perform such executive functions, powers, and duties as may be prescribed by the bylaws or by the Secretary, and such persons shall be executive officers of the Association and shall discharge all such executive functions, powers, and duties.

(b) The Federal National Mortgage Association shall have a board of directors, which shall consist of 13 persons, or such other number that the Director determines appropriate, who shall be elected annually by the common stockholders. Except to the extent that action under section 1377 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 temporarily results in a lesser number, the board shall at all times have as members at least one person from the homebuilding industry, at least one person from the mortgage lending industry, at least one person from the real estate industry, and at least one person from an organization that has represented consumer or community interests for not less than 2 years or one person who has demonstrated a career commitment to the provision of housing for low-income households. Each member of the board of directors shall be elected for a term ending on the date of the next annual meeting of the stockholders. Any seat on the board which becomes vacant after the annual election of the directors shall be filled by the board, but only for the unexpired portion of the term. Within the limitations of law and regulation, the board shall determine the general policies which shall govern the operations of the corporation, and shall have power to adopt, amend, and repeal by laws governing the performance of the powers and duties granted to or imposed upon it by law. The board of directors shall select and effect the appointment of qualified persons to fill the offices of president and vice president, and such other offices as may be provided for in the bylaws.

Any member of the board who is a full-time officer or employee of the Federal Government shall not, as such member, receive compensation for his services.

GENERAL POWERS

SEC. 309. [12 U.S.C. 1723a] (a) Each of the bodies corporate named in section 302(a)(2) shall have power to adopt, alter, and use a corporate seal, which shall be judicially noted; to enter into and perform contracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or other transactions, on such terms as it may deem appropriate, with any agency or instrumentality of the United States, or with any State, Territory, or possession, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or with any political subdivision thereof, or with any person, firm, association, or corporation; to execute, in accordance with its bylaws, all instruments necessary or appropriate in the exercise of any of its powers; in its corporate name, to sue and to be sued, and to complain and to defend, in any court of competent jurisdiction, State or Federal, but no attachment, injunction, or other similar process, mesne or final, shall be issued against the property of the Association or against the Association with respect to its property; to conduct its business without regard to any qualification or similar statute in any State of the United States, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Territories and possessions of the United States; to lease, purchase, or acquire any property, real, personal, or mixed, or any interest therein, to hold, rent, maintain, modernize, renovate, improve, use, and operate such property, and to sell, for cash or credit, lease, or otherwise dispose of the same, at such time and in such manner as and to the extent that the Association may deem necessary or appropriate; to prescribe, repeal, and amend or modify, rules, regulations, or requirements governing the manner in which its general business may be conducted; to accept gifts or donations or services, or of property, real, personal, or mixed, tangible, or intangible, in aid of any of its purposes; and to do all things as are necessary or incidental to the proper management of its affairs and the proper conduct of its business.

(b) Except as may be otherwise provided in this title, in chapter 91 of title 31, United States Code, or in other laws specifically applicable to Government corporations, the Association shall determine the necessity for and the character and amount of its obligations and expenditures and the manner in which they shall be incurred, allowed, paid, and accounted for.

(c)(1) The Association, including its franchise, capital, reserves, surplus, mortgages or other security holdings, and income shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States, by any territory, dependency, or possession thereof, or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority, except that any real property of the Association shall be subject to State, territorial, county, municipal, or local taxation to the same extent according to its value as other real property is taxed.

(2) The corporation, including its franchise, capital, reserves, surplus, mortgages or other security holdings, and income, shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by any State,

territory, possession, Commonwealth, or dependency of the United States, or by the District of Columbia, or by any county, municipality, or local taxing authority, except that any real property of the corporation shall be subject to State, territorial, county, municipal, or local taxation to the same extent as other real property is taxed.

(d)(1) Subject to the provisions of section 308(a), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall have power to select and appoint or employ such officers, attorneys, employees, and agents of the Association, to vest them with such powers and duties, and to fix and to cause the Association to pay such compensation to them for their services, as he may determine, subject to the civil service and classification laws. Bonds may be required for the faithful performance of their duties, and the Association may pay the premiums therefor. With the consent of any Government corporation or Federal Reserve bank, or of any board, commission, independent establishment, or executive department of the Government, the Association may avail itself on a reimbursable basis of the use of information, services, facilities, officers, and employees thereof, including any field service thereof, in carrying out the provisions of this title.

(2) The board of directors of the corporation shall have the power to select and appoint or employ such officers, attorneys, employees, and agents, to vest them with such powers and duties, and to fix and to cause the corporation to pay such compensation to them for their services, as the board of directors determines reasonable and comparable with compensation for employment in other similar businesses (including other publicly held financial institutions or major financial services companies) involving similar duties and responsibilities, except that a significant portion of potential compensation of all executive officers (as such term is defined in paragraph (3)(C)) of the corporation shall be based on the performance of the corporation; and any such action shall be without regard to the Federal civil service and classification laws. Appointments, promotions, and separations so made shall be based on merit and efficiency, and no political tests or qualifications shall be permitted or given consideration. Each officer and employee of the corporation who is employed by the corporation prior to January 31, 1972 and who on the day previous to the beginning of such employment will have been subject to the civil service retirement law (subch. III of ch. 83 of title 5, United States Code) shall, so long as the employment of such officer or employee by the corporation continues without a break in continuity of service, continue to be subject to such law; and for the purpose of such law the employment of such officer or employee by the corporation without a break in continuity of service shall be deemed to be employment by the Government of the United States. The corporation shall contribute to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund a sum as provided by section 8334(a) of title 5, United States Code, except that such sum shall be determined by applying to the total basic pay (as defined in 5 U.S.C. 8331(3) and except as hereinafter provided) paid to the employees of the corporation who are covered by the civil service retirement law, the per centum rate determined annually by the United States Civil Service Commission to be the excess

of the total normal cost per centum rate of the civil service retirement system over the employee deduction rate specified in section 8334(a) of title 5, United States Code. The corporation shall also pay into the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund such portion of the cost of administration of the fund as is determined by the United States Civil Service Commission to be attributable to its employees. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, there shall not be considered for the purposes of the civil service retirement law that portion of the basic pay in any one year of any officer or employee of the corporation which exceeds the basic pay provided for positions listed in section 5312 of title 5, United States Code, on the last day of such year: *Provided*, That with respect to any person whose employment is made subject to the civil service retirement law by section 806 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, there shall not be considered for the purposes of such law that portion of the basic pay of such person in any one year which exceeds the basic pay provided for positions listed in section 5316 of such title 5 on the last day of such year; except as provided in this subsection, the corporation shall not be subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code.

(3)(A) Not later than June 30, 1993, and annually thereafter, the corporation shall submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives¹¹⁵ and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate on (i) the comparability of the compensation policies of the corporation with the compensation policies of other similar businesses, (ii) in the aggregate, the percentage of total cash compensation and payments under employee benefit plans (which shall be defined in a manner consistent with the corporation's proxy statement for the annual meeting of shareholders for the preceding year) earned by executive officers of the corporation during the preceding year that was based on the corporation's performance, and (iii) the comparability of the corporation's financial performance with the performance of other similar businesses. The report shall include a copy of the corporation's proxy statement for the annual meeting of shareholders for the preceding year.

(B) Notwithstanding the first sentence of paragraph (2), after the date of the enactment of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992¹¹⁶, the corporation may not enter into any agreement or contract to provide any payment of money or other thing of current or potential value in connection with the termination of employment of any executive officer of the corporation, unless such agreement or contract is approved in advance by the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The Director may not approve any such agreement or contract unless the Director determines that the benefits provided under the agree-

¹¹⁵Section 1(a) of Public Law 104-14, 109 Stat. 186, provides, in part, that "any reference in any provision of law enacted before January 4, 1995, to... the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives". However, H. Res. 5, 107th Congress, agreed to on January 3, 2001, abolished the Committee on Banking and Financial Services and established the Committee on Financial Services, which has jurisdiction over many of the areas previously under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

¹¹⁶October 28, 1992.

ment or contract are comparable to benefits under such agreements for officers of other public and private entities involved in financial services and housing interests who have comparable duties and responsibilities. For purposes of this subparagraph, any renegotiation, amendment, or change after such date of enactment to any such agreement or contract entered into on or before such date of enactment shall be considered entering into an agreement or contract.

(C) For purposes of this paragraph, the term “executive officer” has the meaning given the term in section 1303 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the corporation shall not transfer, disburse, or pay compensation to any executive officer, or enter into an agreement with such executive officer, without the approval of the Director, for matters being reviewed under section 1318 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4518).

(e) No individual, association, partnership, or corporation, except the bodies corporate named in section 302(a)(2) of this title, shall hereafter use the words “Federal National Mortgage Association”, “Government National Mortgage Association” or any combination of such words, as the name or a part thereof under which the individual, association, partnership, or corporation shall do business. Violations of the foregoing sentence may be enjoyed by any court of general jurisdiction at the suit of the proper body corporate. In any such suit, the plaintiff may recover any actual damages flowing from such violations, and, in addition, shall be entitled to punitive damages (regardless of the existence or nonexistence of actual damages) of not exceeding \$100 for each day during which such violation is committed or repeated.

(f) In order that the Association may be supplied with such forms of obligations or certificates as it may need for issuance under this title, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized, upon request of the Association, to prepare such forms as shall be suitable and approved by the Association, to be held in the Treasury subject to delivery, upon order of the Association. The engraved plates, dies, bed-pieces, and other material executed in connection therewith shall remain in the custody of the Secretary of the Treasury. The Association shall reimburse the Secretary of the Treasury for any expenses incurred in the preparation, custody, and delivery of such forms.

(g) The Federal Reserve banks are authorized and directed to act as depositories, custodians, and fiscal agents for each of the bodies corporate named in section 302(a)(2), for its own account or as fiduciary, and such banks shall be reimbursed for such services in such manner as may be agreed upon; and each of such bodies corporate may itself act in such capacities, for its own account or as fiduciary, and for the account of others.

[(h) [Repealed.]]

[(i) [Repealed.]]

(j)(1) The programs, activities, receipts, expenditures, and financial transactions of the corporation shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller General of the United States under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Comptroller General. The

representatives of the General Accounting Office¹¹⁷ shall have access to such books, accounts, financial records, reports, files, and such other papers, things, or property belonging to or in use by the corporation and necessary to facilitate the audit, and they shall be afforded full facilities for verifying transactions with the balances or securities held by depositories, fiscal agents, and custodians. A report on each such audit shall be made by the Comptroller General to the Congress. The corporation shall reimburse the General Accounting Office¹¹⁷ for the full cost of any such audit as billed therefor by the Comptroller General.

(2) To carry out this subsection, the representatives of the General Accounting Office¹¹⁸ shall have access, upon request to the corporation or any auditor for an audit of the corporation under subsection (1), to any books, accounts, financial records, reports, files, or other papers, things, or property belonging to or in use by the corporation and used in any such audit and to any papers, records, files, and reports of the auditor used in such an audit.

(k)(1) The corporation shall submit to the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency annual and quarterly reports of the financial condition and operations of the corporation which shall be in such form, contain such information, and be submitted on such dates as the Director shall require.

(2) Each such annual report shall include—

(A) financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

(B) any supplemental information or alternative presentation that the Director may require; and

(C) an assessment (as of the end of the corporation's most recent fiscal year), signed by the chief executive officer and chief accounting or financial officer of the corporation, of—

(i) the effectiveness of the internal control structure and procedures of the corporation; and

(ii) the compliance of the corporation with designated safety and soundness laws.

(3) The corporation shall also submit to the Director any other reports required by the Director pursuant to section 1314 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992.

(4) Each report of financial condition shall contain a declaration by the president, vice president, treasurer, or any other officer designated by the board of directors of the corporation to make such declaration, that the report is true and correct to the best of such officer's knowledge and belief.

¹¹⁷ Section 8(a) of the GAO Human Capital Reform Act, Public Law 108–271, 118 Stat. 814, approved July 7, 2004, redesignated the General Accounting Office as the Government Accountability Office. Subsection (b) of such section (31 U.S.C. 702 note) provides that “[a]ny reference to the General Accounting Office in any law, rule, regulation, certificate, directive, instruction, or other official paper in force on the date of enactment of this Act shall be considered to refer and apply to the Government Accountability Office.”

¹¹⁸ Section 1(a) of Public Law 104–14, 109 Stat. 186, provides, in part, that “any reference in any provision of law enacted before January 4, 1995, to... the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives shall be treated as referring to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives”. However, H. Res. 5, 107th Congress, agreed to on January 3, 2001, abolished the Committee on Banking and Financial Services and established the Committee on Financial Services, which has jurisdiction over many of the areas previously under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

(1)(1) The corporation shall have an annual independent audit made of its financial statements by an independent public accountant in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

(2) In conducting an audit under this subsection, the independent public accountant shall determine and report on whether the financial statements of the corporation (A) are presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and (B) to the extent determined necessary by the Director, comply with any disclosure requirements imposed under subsection (k)(2)(B).

(m)(1) The corporation shall collect, maintain, and provide to the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, in a form determined by the Director, data relating to its mortgages on housing consisting of 1 to 4 dwelling units. Such data shall include—

(A) the income, census tract location, race, and gender of mortgagors under such mortgages;

(B) the loan-to-value ratios of purchased mortgages at the time of origination;

(C) whether a particular mortgage purchased is newly originated or seasoned;

(D) the number of units in the housing subject to the mortgage and whether the units are owner-occupied; and

(E) any other characteristics that the Secretary considers appropriate, to the extent practicable.

(2) The corporation shall collect, maintain, and provide to the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, in a form determined by the Director, data relating to its mortgages on housing consisting of more than 4 dwelling units. Such data shall include—

(A) census tract location of the housing;

(B) income levels and characteristics of tenants of the housing (to the extent practicable);

(C) rent levels for units in the housing;

(D) mortgage characteristics (such as the number of units financed per mortgage and the amount of loans);

(E) mortgagor characteristics (such as nonprofit, for-profit, limited equity cooperatives);

(F) use of funds (such as new construction, rehabilitation, refinancing);

(G) type of originating institution; and

(H) any other information that the Secretary considers appropriate, to the extent practicable.

(3)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), this subsection shall apply only to mortgages purchased by the corporation after December 31, 1992.

(B) This subsection shall apply to any mortgage purchased by the corporation after the date determined under subparagraph (A) if the mortgage was originated before such date, but only to the extent that the data referred in paragraph (1) or (2), as applicable, is available to the corporation.

(n)(1) The corporation shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs of the House of Representatives¹¹⁸, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate, and the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency a report on its activities under subpart B of part 2 of subtitle A of the

Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992.

(2) The report under this subsection shall—

(A) include, in aggregate form and by appropriate category, statements of the dollar volume and number of mortgages on owner-occupied and rental properties purchased which relate to each of the annual housing goals established under such subpart;

(B) include, in aggregate form and by appropriate category, statements of the number of families served by the corporation, the income class, race, and gender of homebuyers served, the income class of tenants of rental housing (to the extent such information is available), the characteristics of the census tracts, and the geographic distribution of the housing financed;

(C) include a statement of the extent to which the mortgages purchased by the corporation have been used in conjunction with public subsidy programs under Federal law;

(D) include statements of the proportion of mortgages on housing consisting of 1 to 4 dwelling units purchased by the corporation that have been made to first-time homebuyers, as soon as providing such data is practicable, and identifying any special programs (or revisions to conventional practices) facilitating homeownership opportunities for first-time homebuyers;

(E) include, in aggregate form and by appropriate category, the data provided to the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency under subsection (m)(1)(B);

(F) compare the level of securitization versus portfolio activity;

(G) assess underwriting standards, business practices, repurchase requirements, pricing, fees, and procedures, that affect the purchase of mortgages for low- and moderate-income families, or that may yield disparate results based on the race of the borrower, including revisions thereto to promote affordable housing or fair lending;

(H) describe trends in both the primary and secondary multifamily housing mortgage markets, including a description of the progress made, and any factors impeding progress toward standardization and securitization of mortgage products for multifamily housing;

(I) describe trends in the delinquency and default rates of mortgages secured by housing for low- and moderate-income families that have been purchased by the corporation, including a comparison of such trends with delinquency and default information for mortgage products serving households with incomes above the median level that have been purchased by the corporation, and evaluate the impact of such trends on the standards and levels of risk of mortgage products serving low- and moderate-income families;

(J) describe in the aggregate the seller and servicer network of the corporation, including the volume of mortgages purchased from minority-owned, women-owned, and community-oriented lenders, and any efforts to facilitate relationships with such lenders;

(K) describe the activities undertaken by the corporation with nonprofit and for-profit organizations and with State and local governments and housing finance agencies, including how the corporation's activities support the objectives of comprehensive housing affordability strategies under section 105 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act; and

(L) include any other information that the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency considers appropriate.

(3)(A) The corporation shall make each report under this subsection available to the public at the principal and regional offices of the corporation.

(B) Before making a report under this subsection available to the public, the corporation may exclude from the report information that the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency¹¹⁹ has determined is proprietary information under section 1326 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992.

(o)(1) Not later than 4 months after the date of enactment of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, the corporation shall appoint an Affordable Housing Advisory Council to advise the corporation regarding possible methods for promoting affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families.

(2) The Affordable Housing Advisory Council shall consist of 15 individuals, who shall include representatives of community-based and other nonprofit and for-profit organizations and State and local government agencies actively engaged in the promotion, development, or financing of housing for low- and moderate-income families.

INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

SEC. 310. [12 U.S.C. 1723b] Moneys of the Association not invested in mortgages or other security holdings or in operating facilities shall be kept in cash on hand or on deposit, or invested in obligations of the United States or guaranteed thereby, or in obligations, participations or other instruments which are lawful investments for fiduciary, trust, or public funds.

OBLIGATIONS OF ASSOCIATION LEGAL INVESTMENTS

SEC. 311. [12 U.S.C. 1723c] All obligations, participations, or other instruments issued by either of the bodies corporate named in section 302(a)(2) shall be lawful investments, and may be accepted as security for all fiduciary, trust, and public funds, the investment or deposit of which shall be under the authority and control of the United States or any officer or officers thereof. All stock, obligations, securities, participations, or other instruments issued pursuant to this title shall, to the same extent as securities which are direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed as to principal or interest by the United States, be deemed to be exempt securities

¹¹⁹Section 1161(b)(2)(C) of Public Law 110-289, 122 Stat. 2779, amended paragraph (3)(B) of this section by striking "Secretary" and inserting "Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency". The amendment was probably intended to be made to this paragraph.

within the meaning of laws administered by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SHORT TITLE

SEC. 312. [12 U.S.C. 1716 note] This title III may be referred to as the “Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act”.

[INTERIM AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE CERTAIN MORTGAGES]

[SEC. 313. [Repealed.]]

[PURCHASE OF ENERGY CONSERVING IMPROVEMENT LOANS TO LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES]

[SEC. 314. [Repealed.]]

[AUTHORITY OF SOLAR ENERGY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION BANK TO PURCHASE LOANS AND ADVANCES OF CREDIT FOR ENERGY CONSERVING IMPROVEMENTS OR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS]

[SEC. 315. [Repealed.]]

[AUTHORITY OF SOLAR ENERGY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION BANK TO PURCHASE MORTGAGES SECURED BY NEWLY CONSTRUCTED HOMES WITH SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS]

[SEC. 316. [Repealed.]]

CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES AGAINST ISSUERS

SEC. 317. [12 U.S.C. 1723i] (a) IN GENERAL.

(1) AUTHORITY.—Whenever an issuer or custodian approved under section 306(g) knowingly and materially violates any provisions of subsection (b), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may impose a civil money penalty on the issuer or the custodian in accordance with the provisions of this section. The penalty shall be in addition to any other available civil remedy or any available criminal penalty and may be imposed whether or not the Secretary imposes other administrative sanctions.

(2) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—The amount of the penalty, as determined by the Secretary, may not exceed \$5,000 for each violation, except that the maximum penalty for all violations by a particular issuer or custodian during any one-year period shall not exceed \$1,000,000. Each violation of a provision of subsection (b)(1) shall constitute a separate violation with respect to each pool of mortgages. In the case of a continuing violation, as determined by the Secretary, each day shall constitute a separate violation.

(b) VIOLATIONS FOR WHICH A PENALTY MAY BE IMPOSED.—

(1) VIOLATIONS.—The violations by an issuer or a custodian for which the Secretary may impose a civil money penalty under subsection (a) are the following:

(A) Failure to make timely payments of principal and interest to holders of securities guaranteed under section 306(g).

(B) Failure to segregate cash flow from pooled mortgages or to deposit either principal and interest funds or escrow funds into special accounts with a depository institution whose accounts are insured by the National Credit Union Administration or by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation through the Deposit Insurance Fund.

(C) Use of escrow funds for any purpose other than that for which they were received.

(D) Transfer of servicing for a pool of mortgages to an issuer not approved under this title, unless expressly permitted by statute, regulation, or contract approved by the Secretary.

(E) Failure to maintain a minimum net worth in accordance with requirements prescribed by the Association;¹²⁰

(F) Failure to promptly notify the Association in writing of any changes that materially affect the business status of an issuer.

(G) Submission to the Association of false information in connection with any securities guaranteed, or mortgages pooled, under section 306(g).

(H) Hiring, or retaining in employment, an officer, director, principal, or employee whose duties involve, directly or indirectly, programs administered by the Association while such person was under suspension or debarment by the Secretary.

(I) Submission to the Association of a false certification either on its own behalf or on behalf of another person or entity.

(J) Failure to comply with an agreement, certification, or condition of approval set forth on, or applicable to, the application for approval as an issuer of securities under section 306(g).

(K) Violation of any provisions of this title or any implementing regulation, handbook, or participant letter issued under authority of this title.

(2) NOTIFICATION TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Before taking action to impose a civil money penalty for a violation under paragraph (1)(G) or paragraph (1)(I), the Secretary shall inform the Attorney General of the United States.

(c) AGENCY PROCEDURES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish standards and procedures governing the imposition of civil money penalties under subsection (a). The standards and procedures—

(A) shall provide for the Secretary to make the determination to impose the penalty;

(B) shall provide for the imposition of a penalty only after an issuer or a custodian has been given notice of, and opportunity for, a hearing on the record; and

¹²⁰ So in law.

(C) may provide for review by the Secretary of any determination or order, or interlocutory ruling, arising from a hearing.

(2) FINAL ORDERS.—If no hearing is requested with 15 days of receipt of a notice of opportunity for hearing, the imposition of a penalty shall constitute a final and unappealable determination. If the Secretary reviews the determination or order, the Secretary may affirm, modify, or reverse that determination or order. If the Secretary does not review the determination or order within 90 days of the issuance of the determination or order, the determination or order shall be final.

(3) FACTORS IN DETERMINING AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—In determining the amount of a penalty under subsection (a), consideration shall be given to such factors as the gravity of the offense, any history of prior offenses (including offenses occurring before enactment of this section), ability to pay the penalty, injury to the public, benefits received, deterrence of future violations, and such other factors as the Secretary may determine by regulations.

(4) REVIEWABILITY OF IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—The Secretary's determination or order imposing a penalty under subsection (a) shall not be subject to review, except as provided in subsection (d).

(d) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF AGENCY DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After exhausting all administrative remedies established by the Secretary under subsection (c)(1), an issuer or a custodian against which the Secretary has imposed a civil money penalty under subsection (a) may obtain a review of the penalty and such ancillary issues as may be addressed in the notice provided under subsection (c)(1)(A) in the appropriate court of appeals of the United States, by filing in such court, within 20 days after the entry of such order or determination, a written petition praying that the Secretary's order or determination be modified or be set aside in whole or in part.

(2) OBJECTIONS NOT RAISED IN HEARING.—A court shall not consider any objection that was not raised in the hearing conducted pursuant to subsection (c)(1) unless a demonstration is made of extraordinary circumstances causing the failure to raise the objection. If any party demonstrates to the satisfaction of the court that additional evidence, which was not presented at such hearing, is material and that there were reasonable grounds for the failure to present such evidence at the hearing, the court shall remand the matter to the Secretary for consideration of such additional evidence.

(3) SCOPE OF REVIEW.—The decisions, findings, and determinations of the Secretary shall be reviewed pursuant to section 706 of title 5, United States Code.

(4) ORDER TO PAY PENALTY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the court shall have the power in any such review to order payment of the penalty imposed by the Secretary.

(e) ACTION TO COLLECT PENALTY.—If any issuer or custodian fails to comply with the Secretary's determination or order impos-

ing a civil money penalty under subsection (a), after the determination or order is no longer subject to review as provided by subsections (c)(1) and (d), the Secretary may request the Attorney General of the United States to bring an action in an appropriate United States district court to obtain a monetary judgment against the issuer or custodian and such other relief as may be available. The monetary judgment may, in the discretion of the court, include any attorneys fees and other expenses incurred by the United States in connection with the action. In an action under this subsection, the validity and appropriateness of the Secretary's determination or order imposing the penalty shall not be subject to review.

(f) SETTLEMENT BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit any civil money penalty which may be, or has been, imposed under this section.

(g) DEFINITION OF KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” means having actual knowledge of or acting with deliberate ignorance of or reckless disregard for the prohibitions under this section.

(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations as the Secretary deems appropriate to implement this section.

(i) DEPOSIT OF PENALTIES.—The Secretary shall deposit all civil money penalties collected under this section into moneys of the Association pursuant to section 307.

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TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS

* * * * *

PENALTIES

SEC. 512. [12 U.S.C. 1731a] Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary is authorized to refuse the benefits of participation (either directly as an insured lender or as a borrower, or indirectly as a builder, contractor, or dealer, or salesman or sales agent for a builder, contractor or dealer) under title I, II, VI, VII, IX, or XI of this Act to any person or firm (including but not limited to any individual, partnership, association, trust, or corporation) if the Secretary has determined that such person or firm (1) has knowingly or willfully violated any provision of this Act or of title III of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, as amended, or of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, or of any regulation issued by the Secretary under this Act or by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under said title III, or chapter 37, or (2) has, in connection with any construction, alteration, repair or improvement work financed with assistance under this Act or under said title III, or chapter 37, or in connection with contracts for financing relating to such work, violated any Federal or State penal statute, or (3) has failed materially to properly carry out contractual obligations with respect to the completion of construction, alteration, repair, or improvement work financed with assistance under this Act or under title III of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, as amended, or of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code. Before any such determination is made any person or firm with respect to whom such a determination is proposed shall be no-

tified in writing by the Secretary and shall be entitled, upon making a written request to the Secretary to a written notice specifying charges in reasonable detail and an opportunity to be heard and to be represented by counsel. Determinations made by the Secretary under this section shall be based on the preponderance of the evidence. For the purposes of compliance with this section the Secretary's notice of a proposed determination under this section shall be considered to have been received by the interested person or firm if the notice is properly mailed to the best known address of such person or firm.

PROHIBITION AGAINST TRANSIENT HOUSING

SEC. 513. [12 U.S.C. 1731b] (a) The Congress hereby declares that it has been its intent since the enactment of the National Housing Act that housing built with the aid of mortgages insured under this Act is to be used principally for residence use; and that this intent excludes the use of such housing for transient or hotel purposes while such insurance on the mortgage remains outstanding.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, no new, existing, or rehabilitated multifamily housing with respect to which a mortgage is insured under this Act shall be operated for transient or hotel purposes unless (1) on or before May 28, 1954, the Secretary has agreed in writing to the rental of all or a portion of the accommodations in the project for transient or hotel purposes (in which case no accommodations in excess of the number so agreed to by the Secretary shall be rented on such basis), or (2) the project covered by the insured mortgage is located in an area which the Secretary determines to be a resort area, and the Secretary finds that prior to May 28, 1954, a portion of the accommodations in the project had been made available for rent for transient or hotel purposes (in which case no accommodations in excess of the number of which had been made available for such use shall be rented on such basis).

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no mortgage with respect to multifamily housing shall be insured under this Act (except pursuant to a commitment to insure issued prior to the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954), and (except as to housing coming within the provisions of clause (1) or clause (2) of the preceding subsection) no mortgage with respect to multifamily housing shall be insured for an additional term, unless (1) the mortgagor certifies under oath that while such insurance remains outstanding he will not rent, or permit the rental of, such housing or any part thereof for transient or hotel purposes, and (2) the Secretary has entered into such contract with, or purchased such stock of, the mortgagor as the Secretary deems necessary to enable him to prevent or terminate any use of such property or project for transient or hotel purposes while the mortgage insurance remains outstanding.

(d) The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to enforce the provisions of this section by all appropriate means at his disposal, as to all existing multifamily housing with respect to which a mortgage was insured under this Act prior to the effective date

of the Housing Act of 1954 as well as to all multifamily housing with respect to which a mortgage is hereafter insured under this Act: *Provided*, That no criminal penalty shall, by reason of enactment of this section, be applicable to the rental or operation of any such existing multifamily housing in violation of any provision of subsection (b) of this section at any time prior to the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954.

(e) As used in this section, (1) the term “rental for transient or hotel purposes” shall have such meaning as prescribed by the Secretary but rental for any period less than thirty days shall in any event constitute rental for such purposes, and (2) the term “multifamily housing” shall mean (i) a property held by a mortgagor upon which there are located five or more single family dwellings, or upon which there is located a two-, three-, or four-family dwelling, or (ii) a property or project covered by mortgage insured or to be insured under section 207, under section 213 with respect to any property or project of a corporation or trust of the character described in paragraph numbered (1) of subsection (a) thereof, under section 220 if the mortgage is within the provisions of paragraph (3)(B) of subsection (d) thereof, under section 221 if the mortgage is within the provisions of paragraph (3) of subsection (d) thereof, under section 608, under section 803, or under section 908, or (iii) a project with respect to which an insurance contract to title VII is outstanding.

(f) Promptly after receipt of written notice that any portion of any building is being rented or operated in violation of any provision of this section or of any rule or regulation lawfully issued thereunder, the Secretary shall investigate the existence of the facts alleged in the written notice and shall order such violation, if found to exist, to cease forthwith.

(g) If such violation does not cease in accordance with such order, the Secretary shall forward the complaint to the Attorney General of the United States for prosecution of such civil or criminal action, if any, which the Attorney General may find to be involved in such violation.

(h) Whenever he finds a violation of any provision of this section has occurred or is about to occur, the Attorney General shall petition the district court of the United States or the district court of any Territory or other place subject to United States jurisdiction within whose jurisdictional limits the person doing or committing the acts or practices constituting the alleged violation of this section shall be found, for an order enjoining such acts or practices, and upon a showing by the Attorney General that such acts or practices constituting such violation have been engaged in or about to be engaged in, a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order, with or without such injunctions or restraining order, shall be granted without bond.

(i) Any person owning or operating a hotel within a radius of fifty miles of a place where a violation of any provision of this section has occurred or is about to occur, or any group or association or hotel owners or operators within said fifty-mile radius, at his or their sole charge or cost, may petition any district court of the United States or the district court of any Territory or other place subject to United States jurisdiction within whose jurisdictional

limits the person doing or committing the acts or practices constituting the alleged violation of this section shall be found, for an order enjoining such acts or practices, and, upon a showing that such acts or practices constituting such violation have been engaged in or are about to be engaged in, a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order or other order with or without such injunction, or restraining order, shall be granted.

(j) The several district courts of the United States and the several district courts of the Territories of the United States or other place subject to the United States jurisdiction, within whose jurisdictional limits the person doing or committing the acts or practices constituting the alleged violation shall be found, shall, wherever such acts or practices may have been done or committed, have full power and jurisdiction to hear, try, and determine such matter under subsections (h) and (i) of this section.

SEPARABILITY PROVISION

SEC. 513A. [12 U.S.C. 1732] If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid, the remainder of the Act, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

APPLICABILITY OF OTHER ACTS

SEC. 514. [12 U.S.C. 1733] The provisions of section 10(a) 1 and 10b of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act, as amended (49 Stat. 294, 295); paragraph seventh of section 5136 of the Revised Statutes, as amended (49 Stat. 709); section 24 of the Federal Reserve Act, as amended (49 Stat. 706); subsection (n) of section 77B of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended (49 Stat. 664); section 5(c) of the Act approved January 31, 1935, continuing and extending the functions of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (49 Stat. 1); and all other provisions of law establishing rights under mortgages insured in accordance with the provisions of the National Housing Act, shall be held to apply to such Act, as amended.

AMENDMENT, EXTENSION, OR INCREASE OF COMMITMENT AMOUNTS

SEC. 515. [12 U.S.C. 1734] At any time prior to final endorsement for insurance, the Secretary, in his discretion, may amend, extend, or increase the amount of any commitment, provided the mortgage, as finally endorsed for insurance is eligible for insurance under the provisions of this Act, and the rules and regulations, thereunder, in effect at the time the original commitment to insure was issued.

PAYMENT OF CERTAIN FUNDS TO TREASURY

SEC. 516. [12 U.S.C. 1735] The following funds shall be deemed an indebtedness to the United States of the particular insurance fund involved, and the Secretary is authorized and directed to pay the amount of such indebtedness to the Secretary of the Treasury, with simple interest thereon from the date the funds were advanced to the date of final payment at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the av-

erage rate on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States from the date the funds were advanced until the date of final payment—

(1) funds made available to the Secretary pursuant to the provisions of sections 4 and 202, exclusive of amounts heretofore refunded, (a) for carrying out title II with respect to mortgages insured under section 203 where such funds were credited to the general reinsurance account in the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, and (b) for the payment of salaries and expenses with respect to mortgage insurance under sections 207 and 210 where such funds were credited to the Housing Insurance Fund;

(2) funds made available to the Secretary pursuant to sections 602 and 802; and

(3) funds made available to the Secretary by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to section 710.

Payments to the Secretary of the Treasury under this section shall be made in such amounts and at such times as the Secretary determines, after consultations with the Secretary of the Treasury, that funds are available for that purpose, taking into consideration the continued solvency of the funds involved. All payments made pursuant to this section shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

PREPAYMENT OF MORTGAGES BY NONPROFIT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

SEC. 517. [12 U.S.C. 1735a] (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no adjusted premium charge shall be collected in connection with the payment in full, prior to maturity, of any mortgage insured under this Act, if the mortgagor certifies to the Secretary that the loan was paid in full by or on behalf of a non-profit educational institution which intends to use the property for educational purposes.

(b) The Secretary shall refund any adjusted premium charge collected subsequent to July 1, 1962, and prior to the date of the enactment of the Housing Act of 1964,¹²¹ in connection with the payment in full, prior to maturity, of any mortgage insured under this Act, if the mortgagor under such mortgage makes the certification prescribed by subsection (a).

EXPENDITURES TO CORRECT OR COMPENSATE FOR SUBSTANTIAL DEFECTS IN MORTGAGED HOMES

SEC. 518. [12 U.S.C. 1735b] (a)¹²²

(1) The Secretary is authorized to make expenditures under this subsection with respect to any property that—

(A) is a condominium unit (including common areas) or is improved by a one-to-four family dwelling;

(B) was approved, before the beginning of construction, for mortgage insurance under this Act or for guaranty, insurance, or direct loan under chapter 37 of title 38, United

¹²¹ September 2, 1964.

¹²² So in law.

States Code, or was less than a year old at the time of insurance of the mortgage and was covered by a consumer protection or warranty plan acceptable to the Secretary; and

(C) the Secretary finds to have structural defects.

(2) Expenditures under this subsection may be made for (A) correcting such defects, (B) paying the claims of the owner of the property arising from such defects, or (C) acquiring title to the property: *Provided*, That such authority of the Secretary shall exist only (A) if the owner has requested assistance from the Secretary not later than four years (or such shorter time as the Secretary may prescribe) after insurance of the mortgage, and (B) if the property is encumbered by a mortgage which is insured under this Act after the date of enactment of the Housing Act of 1964.¹²³

(b) The Secretary is authorized to make expenditures to correct, or to reimburse the owner for the correction of, structural or other major defects which so seriously affect use and livability as to create a serious danger to the life or safety of inhabitants of any one, two, three, or four family dwelling which is covered by a mortgage insured under section 235 of this Act or which is located in an older, declining urban area and is covered by a mortgage insured under section 203 or 221 on or after August 1, 1968, but prior to January 1, 1973, and which is more than one year old on the date of the issuance of the insurance commitment, if (1) the owner requests assistance from the Secretary not later than one year after the insurance of the mortgage, or, in the case of a dwelling covered by a mortgage insured under section 203 or 221 the insurance commitment for which was issued on or after August 1, 1968, but prior to January 1, 1973, not more than four months after the date of enactment of the Housing Authorization Act of 1976, and (2) the defect is one that existed on the date of the issuance of the insurance commitment and is one that a proper inspection could reasonably be expected to disclose. The Secretary may require from the seller of any such dwelling an agreement to reimburse him for any payments made pursuant to this subsection with respect to such dwelling. Expenditures pursuant to this subsection shall be made from the insurance fund chargeable for insurance benefits on the mortgage covering the structure to which the expenditures relate. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to cover the costs of such expenditures not otherwise provided for.

(c) The Secretary shall by regulations prescribe the terms and conditions under which expenditures and payments may be made under the provisions of this section, and his decisions regarding such expenditures or payments, and the terms and conditions under which the same are approved or disapproved, shall be final and conclusive and shall not be subject to judicial review.

(d) The Secretary is authorized to make expenditures to correct or to reimburse the owner for the correction of structural or other major defects which so seriously affect use and livability as to cre-

¹²³ So in law. Probably should read "section". See amendment made by section 2118(c)(2) of Public Law 110-289.

ate a serious danger to the life or safety of inhabitants of any one-, two-, three-, or four-family dwelling which is more than one year old on the date of issuance of the insurance commitment, is located in an older, declining urban area, and is covered by a mortgage insured under section 203 or 221 on or after January 1, 1973, but prior to the date of enactment of this subsection if (1) the owner requests assistance from the Secretary not more than one year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and (2) the defect is one that existed on the date of the issuance of the insurance commitment and is one that a proper inspection could reasonably have been expected to have disclosed. The Secretary may require from the seller of any such dwelling an agreement to reimburse him for any payments made pursuant to this subsection with respect to such dwelling. Expenditures pursuant to this subsection shall be made from the insurance fund chargeable for insurance benefits on the mortgage covering the structure to which the expenditures relate. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to cover the cost of such expenditures not otherwise provided for.

(e) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development is authorized and directed to conduct a full and complete investigation and study and report to Congress, with recommendations, not later than March 1, 1977, with respect to an effective program for protecting home buyers from hidden or undisclosed defects seriously affecting the use and livability of the home, which would be applicable to existing homes financed with mortgages insured under this Act. In the study and report the Secretary shall particularly investigate the need for, cost and feasible structure of, a national home inspection and warranty program, with respect to such homes, to be operated by the Federal Government out of fees assessed on the home buyer and amortized over a period of two years. The Secretary's report shall also present an analysis of alternative Federal programs to meet these needs, and the cost and means of financing such programs. In the report the Secretary shall also outline administrative steps which can be taken to provide disclosure to purchasers of existing homes financed with mortgages insured under this Act of the actual condition of the home and the types of repairs or replacements likely to be needed within a period of two years, such as repairs or replacement of furnace, roof or major appliances, based on age and useful life expectancy of such appurtenances.

ESTABLISHMENT OF GENERAL INSURANCE FUND

SEC. 519. [12 U.S.C. 1735c] (a) There is hereby created a General Insurance Fund which shall be used by the Secretary, on and after the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, as a revolving fund for carrying out all the insurance provisions of this Act with the exception of those specified in subsection (e). All mortgages or loans insured under this Act pursuant to commitments issued on or after the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, except those specified in subsection (e), and all loans reported for insurance under section 2 on or after the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, shall be insured under

the General Insurance Fund. The Secretary shall transfer to the General Insurance Fund—

(1) the assets and liabilities of all insurance accounts and funds, except the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund, existing under this Act immediately prior to the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965;

(2) all outstanding commitments for insurance issued prior to the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, except those specified in subsection (e);

(3) the insurance on all mortgages and loans insured prior to the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, except insurance specified in subsection (e); and

(4) the insurance of all loans made by approved financial institutions pursuant to section 2 prior to the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965.

(b) The general expenses of the operations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development relating to mortgages and loans which are the obligation of the General Insurance Fund may be charged to the General Insurance Fund.

(c) Moneys in the General Insurance Fund not needed for the current operations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development with respect to mortgages and loans which are the obligation of the General Insurance Fund shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States to the credit of such Fund, or invested in bonds or other obligations of, or in bonds or other obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by, the United States or any agency of the United States: *Provided*, That such moneys shall to the maximum extent feasible be invested in such bonds or other obligations the proceeds of which will be used to directly support the residential mortgage market.

The Secretary may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, purchase in the open market debentures issued as obligations of the General Insurance Fund or issued prior to the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 under other provisions of this Act, except debentures issued under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund. Such purchases shall be made at a price which will provide an investment yield of not less than the yield obtainable from other investments authorized by this section. Debentures so purchased shall be canceled and not reissued.

(d) Premium charges, adjusted premium charges, and appraisals and other fees received on account of the insurance of any mortgage or loan which is the obligation of the General Insurance Fund, the receipts derived from the property covered by such mortgages and loans and from the claims, debts, contracts, property, and security assigned to the Secretary in connection therewith, and all earnings on the assets of the Fund shall be credited to the General Insurance Fund. The principal of, and interest paid and to be paid on, debentures which are the obligation of such Fund, cash insurance payments and adjustments, and expenses incurred in the handling, management, renovation, and disposal of properties acquired, in connection with mortgages and loans which are the obligation of such Fund, shall be charged to such Fund.

(e) The General Insurance Fund shall not be used for carrying out the provisions of sections¹²³ 203, except as determined by the Secretary, or the provisions of section 213 to the extent that they involve mortgages the insurance for which is the obligation of the Cooperative Management Housing Insurance Fund created by section 213(k), or the provisions of sections 223(e), 233(a)(2), 235, 236 and 237; and nothing in this section shall apply to or affect mortgages, loans, commitments, or insurance under such provisions.

(f) RISK ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary shall undertake an annual assessment of the risks associated with each of the insurance programs comprising the General Insurance Fund, and shall present findings from such review to the Congress in the FHA Annual Management Report.

OPTIONAL CASH PAYMENTS OF INSURANCE BENEFITS

SEC. 520. [12 U.S.C. 1735d] (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act with respect to the payment of insurance benefits, the Secretary is authorized, in his discretion, to pay in cash or in debentures any insurance claim or part thereof which is paid on or after the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 on a mortgage or a loan which was insured under any section of this Act either before or after such date. If payment is made in cash, it shall be an amount equivalent to the face amount of the debentures that would otherwise be issued plus an amount equivalent to the interest which the debentures would have earned, computed to a date to be established pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary.

(b) The Secretary is authorized to borrow from the Treasury from time to time such amounts as the Secretary shall determine are necessary (1) to make payments in cash (in lieu of issuing debentures guaranteed by the United States, as provided in this Act) pursuant to the provisions of this section, and (2) to make payments for reinsured and directly insured losses under title XII of this Act: *Provided, however,* That borrowings to make payments for reinsured and directly insured losses under title XII shall be limited to \$250,000,000 or such further sum as the Congress, by joint resolution, may from time to time determine. Notes or other obligations issued by the Secretary in borrowing under this subsection shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe. Each sum borrowed pursuant to this subsection shall bear interest at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturities during the month preceding the issuance of such notes or other obligations.

APPROVAL OF TECHNICALLY SUITABLE MATERIALS

SEC. 521. [12 U.S.C. 1735e] The Secretary shall adopt a uniform procedure for the acceptance of materials and products to be used in structures approved for mortgages or loans insured under this Act. Under such procedure any material or product which the Secretary finds is technically suitable for the use proposed shall be accepted. Acceptance of a material or product as technically suit-

able shall not be deemed to restrict the discretion of the Secretary to determine that a structure, with respect to which a mortgage is executed, is economically sound or an acceptable risk.

WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES

SEC. 522. [12 U.S.C. 1735f] Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no mortgage which covers new construction shall be approved for insurance under this Act (except pursuant to a commitment made prior to the date of the enactment of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965) if the mortgaged property includes housing which is not served by a public or adequate community water and sewerage system: *Provided*, That this limitation shall be applicable only to property which is not served by a system approved by the Secretary pursuant to title X of this Act, as such title existed immediately before the date of the enactment of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989,¹²⁴ and which is situated in an area certified by appropriate local officials to be an area where the establishment of public or adequate community water and sewerage systems is economically feasible: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section the economic feasibility of establishing such public or adequate community water and sewerage systems shall be determined without regard to whether such establishment is authorized by law or is subject to approval by one or more local governments or public bodies.

WAIVER OF DEDUCTION ON ASSIGNMENT OF PROPERTY TO SECRETARY IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE

SEC. 523. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-1] Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, from and after the date of the enactment of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966, the Secretary, under such terms and conditions as he may approve, may waive all or a part of the 1 per centum deduction otherwise made from insurance benefits with respect to multifamily housing or land development mortgages assigned to him, where the assignment is made at his request in lieu of foreclosure of the mortgage.

FHA REHABILITATION STANDARDS FOR HOUSING IN URBAN RENEWAL AREAS

SEC. 524. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-2] In determining whether properties should be approved by the Secretary prior to rehabilitation and covered by mortgages insured under title II of this Act, the Secretary shall apply uniform property standards as between properties located outside urban renewal areas and those located within urban renewal areas.

ADVANCES

SEC. 525. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-3] The Secretary is authorized to insure mortgage proceeds advanced during construction or rehabilitation or otherwise prior to final endorsement of a project mortgage for the purpose of (1) financing improvements to the property and

¹²⁴ December 15, 1989.

the purchase of materials and building components delivered to the property, and (2) providing funds to cover the cost of building components where such components have been assembled and specifically identified for incorporation into the property but are located at a site other than the mortgaged property, with such security as the Secretary may require.

MINIMUM PROPERTY STANDARDS

SEC. 526. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-4] (a) To the maximum extent feasible, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall promote the use of energy saving techniques through minimum property standards established by him for newly constructed residential housing, other than manufactured homes, subject to mortgages insured under this Act. Such standards shall establish energy performance requirements that will achieve a significant increase in the energy efficiency of new construction. Such requirements shall be implemented as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this sentence.¹²⁵ Following the effective date of this sentence,¹²⁶ the energy performance requirements developed and established by the Secretary under this subsection for newly constructed residential housing, other than manufactured homes, shall be at least as effective in performance as the energy performance requirements incorporated in the minimum property standards that were in effect under this subsection on September 30, 1982.

(b) The Secretary may require that each property, other than a manufactured home, subject to a mortgage insured under this Act shall, with respect to health and safety, comply with one of the nationally recognized model building codes, or with a State or local building code based on one of the nationally recognized model building codes or their equivalent. The Secretary shall be responsible for determining the comparability of the State and local codes to such model codes and for selecting for compliance purposes an appropriate nationally recognized model building code where no such model code has been duly adopted or where the Secretary determines the adopted code is not comparable.

(c) The Secretary may establish an exception to any minimum property standard established under this section in order to address alternative water systems, including cisterns, which meet requirements of State and local building codes that ensure health and safety standards.

PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION ON ACCOUNT OF SEX IN EXTENSION OF MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

SEC. 527. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-5] (a) No federally related mortgage loan, or Federal insurance, guaranty, or other assistance in connection therewith (under this or any other Act), shall be denied to any person on account of sex; and every person engaged in making mortgage loans secured by residential real property shall consider without prejudice the combined income of both husband and wife for the purpose of extending mortgage credit in the form of a

¹²⁵ November 9, 1978.

¹²⁶ November 30, 1983.

federally related mortgage loan to a married couple or either member thereof.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a), the term “federally related mortgage loan” means any loan which—

(1) is secured by residential real property designed principally for the occupancy of from one to four families; and

(2)(A) is made in whole or in part by any lender the deposits or accounts of which are insured by any agency of the Federal Government, or is made in whole or in part by any lender which is itself regulated by any agency of the Federal Government; or

(B) is made in whole or in part, or insured, guaranteed, supplemented, or assisted in any way, by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or any other officer or agency of the Federal Government or under or in connection with a housing or urban development program administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or a housing or related program administered by any other such officer or agency; or

(C) is eligible for purchase by the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Government National Mortgage Association, or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, or from any financial institution from which it could be purchased by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation; or

(D) is made in whole or in part by any “creditor”, as defined in section 103(f) of the Consumer Credit Protection Act of 1968 (15 U.S.C. 1602(f)), who makes or invests in residential real estate loans aggregating more than \$1,000,000 per year.

SECONDARY MORTGAGES ON INSURED PROPERTIES

SEC. 528. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–6] In carrying out the provisions of title II of this Act with respect to insuring mortgages secured by one- to four-family dwelling unit, the Secretary may not deny such insurance for any such mortgage solely because the dwelling unit which secures such mortgage will be subject to a secondary mortgage or loan made or insured, or other secondary lien held, by any State or local governmental agency or instrumentality under terms and conditions approved by the Secretary.

EXEMPTION FROM STATE USURY LAWS

SEC. 529. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–7] (a) The provisions of the constitution of any State expressly limiting the rate or amount of interest, discount points, or other charges which may be charged, taken, received, or reserved by lenders and the provisions of any State law expressly limiting the rate or amount of interest, discount points, or other charges which may be charged, taken, received, or reserved shall not apply to any loan, mortgage, or advance which is insured under title I or II of this Act.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) shall apply to loans, mortgages, or advances made or executed in any State until the effective date (after the date of enactment of this section) of a provision of law of that State limiting the rate or amount of interest, dis-

count points, or other charges on any such loan, mortgage, or advance.

TIME OF PAYMENT OF PREMIUM CHARGES

SEC. 530. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-8] In carrying out the provisions of titles I, II, IV, VII, VIII, IX, and XI pertaining to the payment of loan or mortgage insurance premium charges by a financial institution, other mortgagees, or agent thereof to the Federal Government in connection with a loan or mortgage insurance program established pursuant to any of these titles, the Secretary shall require that payment of such premiums be made (1) in the case of loans or mortgages respecting one- to four-family residences, promptly upon their receipt from the borrower, and (2) in any other case, promptly when due to the Secretary; except that the Secretary may approve payment of such premiums within twenty-four months of such receipt or due date, as appropriate, if the financial institution, mortgagee, or agent thereof pays interest, at a rate specified by the Secretary, to the insurance fund for the period beginning twenty days after receipt from the borrower or after the due date, as appropriate, and ending upon payment of the premiums to the Federal Government.

LIMITATION ON COMMITMENTS TO INSURE LOANS AND MORTGAGES

SEC. 531. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-9] (a) The authority of the Secretary to enter into commitments to insure loans and mortgages under this Act shall be effective for any fiscal year only to such extent or in such amounts as are or have been provided in appropriation Acts for such fiscal year.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject only to the absence of qualified requests for insurance, to the authority provided in this Act, and to the limitation in subsection (a), the Secretary shall enter into commitments to insure mortgages under this Act with an aggregate principal amount of \$110,165,000,000 during fiscal year 1993 and \$68,673,868,600 during fiscal year 1994.

SEC. 532. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-10] CHANGE OF MORTGAGEE STATUS.

(a) NOTIFICATION.—Upon the occurrence of any action described in subsection (b), an approved mortgagee shall immediately submit to the Secretary, in writing, notification of such occurrence.

(b) ACTIONS.—The actions described in this subsection are as follows:

(1) The debarment, suspension or a Limited Denial of Participation (LDP), or application of other sanctions, other exclusions, fines, or penalties applied to the mortgagee or to any officer, partner, director, principal, manager, supervisor, loan processor, loan underwriter, or loan originator of the mortgagee pursuant to applicable provisions of State or Federal law.

(2) The revocation of a State-issued mortgage loan originator license issued pursuant to the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) or any other similar declaration of ineligibility pursuant to State law.

SEC. 533. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–11] REVIEW OF MORTGAGEE PERFORMANCE AND AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE.—

(a) PERIODIC REVIEW OF MORTGAGEE PERFORMANCE.—To reduce losses in connection with single family mortgage insurance programs under this Act, at least once a year the Secretary shall review the rate of early defaults and claims for insured single family mortgages originated or underwritten by each mortgagee.

(b) COMPARISON WITH OTHER MORTGAGEES.—For each mortgagee, the Secretary shall compare the rate of early defaults and claims for insured single family mortgage loans originated or underwritten by the mortgagee in an area with the rate of early defaults and claims for other mortgagees originating or underwriting insured single family mortgage loans in the area. For purposes of this section, the term “area” means each geographic area in which the mortgagee is authorized by the Secretary to originate insured single family mortgages.

(c) TERMINATION OF MORTGAGEE ORIGINATION APPROVAL.—(1) Notwithstanding section 202(c) of this Act, the Secretary may terminate the approval of a mortgagee to originate or underwrite single family mortgages if the Secretary determines that the mortgage loans originated or underwritten by the mortgagee present an unacceptable risk to the insurance funds. The determination shall be based on the comparison required under subsection (b) and shall be made in accordance with regulations of the Secretary. The Secretary may rely on existing regulations published before this section takes effect.¹²⁷

(2) The Secretary shall give a mortgagee at least 60 days prior written notice of any termination under this subsection. The termination shall take effect at the end of the notice period, unless the Secretary withdraws the termination notice or extends the notice period. If requested in writing by the mortgagee within 30 days of the date of the notice, the mortgagee shall be entitled to an informal conference with the official authorized to issue termination notices on behalf of the Secretary (or a designee of that official). At the informal conference, the mortgagee may present for consideration specific factors that it believes were beyond its control and that caused the excessive default and claim rate.

ASSURANCE OF ADEQUATE PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR LOAN AND MORTGAGE INSURANCE

SEC. 534. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–12] (a) STATE OFFICES.—In order to ensure the adequate processing of applications for insurance of loans and mortgages under this Act, the Secretary shall maintain not less than one office in each State to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(b) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE FOR RTC PROPERTIES.—To assist the Resolution Trust Corporation in disposing of the property to which it acquires title and to ensure the timely processing of applications for insurance of loans and mortgages under this Act that will be used to purchase multifamily residential property from the

¹²⁷Section 209 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, Pub. L. 107–73, 115 Stat. 675, amended this section in its entirety. Such Act was approved on November 26, 2001.

Resolution Trust Corporation, the Secretary shall establish an expedited procedure for considering such applications.

PROHIBITION OF REQUIREMENT OF MINIMUM PRINCIPAL LOAN
AMOUNT

SEC. 535. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–13] A mortgagee or lender may not require, as a condition of providing a loan insured under this Act or secured by a mortgage insured under this Act, that the principal amount of the loan exceed a minimum amount established by the mortgagee or lender.

SEC. 536. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–14] CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES AGAINST MORTGAGEES, LENDERS, AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN FHA PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—If a mortgagee approved under the Act, a lender holding a contract of insurance under title I, or a principal, officer, or employee of such mortgagee or lender, or other person or entity participating in either an insured mortgage or title I loan transaction under this Act or providing assistance to the borrower in connection with any such loan, including sellers of the real estate involved, borrowers, closing agents, title companies, real estate agents, mortgage brokers, appraisers, loan correspondents and dealers, knowingly and materially violates any applicable provision of subsection (b), the Secretary may impose a civil money penalty on the mortgagee or lender, or such other person or entity, in accordance with this section. The penalty under this paragraph shall be in addition to any other available civil remedy or any available criminal penalty, and may be imposed whether or not the Secretary imposes other administrative sanctions. The penalty shall be in addition to any other available civil remedy or any available criminal penalty, and may be imposed whether or not the Secretary imposes other administrative sanctions.

(2) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—The amount of the penalty, as determined by the Secretary, may not exceed \$5,000 for each violation except that the maximum penalty for all violations by any particular mortgagee or lender or such other person or entity during any 1-year period shall not exceed \$1,000,000. Each violation of the provisions of subsection (b)(1) shall constitute a separate violation with respect to each mortgage or loan application. In the case of a continuing violation, as determined by the Secretary, each day shall constitute a separate violation.

¹²⁸ In the case of the mortgagee's failure to engage in loss mitigation activities, as provided in section 536(b)(1)(I), the penalty shall be in the amount of three times the amount of any insurance benefits claimed by the mortgagee with respect to any mortgage for which the mortgagee failed to engage in such loss mitigation actions.

(b) VIOLATIONS FOR WHICH A PENALTY MAY BE IMPOSED.—

(1) VIOLATIONS.—The Secretary may impose a civil money penalty under subsection (a) for any knowing and material vio-

¹²⁸ Indented so in law.

lation by a mortgagee or lender or any of its owners, officers, or directors, as follows:

(A) Except where expressly permitted by statute, regulation, or contract approved by the Secretary, transfer of a mortgage insured under this Act to a mortgagee not approved by the Secretary, or transfer of a loan to a transferee that is not holding a contract of insurance under title I of this Act.

(B) Failure of a nonsupervised mortgagee, as defined by the Secretary—

(i) to segregate all escrow funds received from a mortgagor for ground rents, taxes, assessments, and insurance premiums; or

(ii) to deposit these funds in a special account with a depository institution whose accounts are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation through the Deposit Insurance Fund, or by the National Credit Union Administration.

(C) Use of escrow funds for any purpose other than that for which they were received.

(D) Submission to the Secretary of information that was false, in connection with any mortgage insured under this Act, or any loan that is covered by a contract of insurance under title I of this Act.

(E) With respect to an officer, director, principal, or employee—

(i) hiring such an individual whose duties will involve, directly or indirectly, programs administered by the Secretary, while that person was under suspension or withdrawal by the Secretary; or

(ii) retaining in employment such an individual who continues to be involved, directly or indirectly, in programs administered by the Secretary, while that person was under suspension or withdrawal by the Secretary.

(F) Falsely certifying to the Secretary or submitting to the Secretary a false certification by another person or entity.

(G) Failure to comply with an agreement, certification, or condition of approval set forth on, or applicable to—

(i) the application of a mortgagee or lender for approval by the Secretary; or

(ii) the notification by a mortgagee or lender to the Secretary concerning establishment of a branch office.

(H) Violation of any provisions of title I or II of this Act, or any implementing regulation, handbook, or mortgage letter that is issued under this Act.

(I)¹²⁹ Failure to engage in loss mitigation actions as provided in section 230(a) of this Act.

(J) Failure to perform a required physical inspection of the mortgaged property.

¹²⁹ Indented so in law.

(K) Violation of section 202(d) of this Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(d)).

(L) Use of “Federal Housing Administration”, “Department of Housing and Urban Development”, “Government National Mortgage Association”, “Ginnie Mae”, the acronyms “HUD”, “FHA”, or “GNMA”, or any official seal or logo of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, except as authorized by the Secretary.

(2) The Secretary may impose a civil money penalty under subsection (a) for any knowing and material violation by a principal, officer, or employee of a mortgagee or lender, or other participants in either an insured mortgage or title I loan transaction under this Act or provision of assistance to the borrower in connection with any such loan, including sellers of the real estate involved, borrowers, closing agents, title companies, real estate agents, mortgage brokers, appraisers, loan correspondents, and dealers for—

(A) submission to the Secretary of information that was false, in connection with any mortgage insured under this Act, or any loan that is covered by a contract of insurance under title I of this Act;

(B) falsely certifying to the Secretary or submitting to the Secretary a false certification by another person or entity;

(C) failure by a loan correspondent or dealer to submit to the Secretary information which is required by regulations or directives in connection with any loan that is covered by a contract of insurance under title I; or

(D) causing or participating in any of the violations set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(3) PROHIBITION AGAINST MISLEADING USE OF FEDERAL ENTITY DESIGNATION.—The Secretary may impose a civil money penalty, as adjusted from time to time, under subsection (a) for any use of “Federal Housing Administration”, “Department of Housing and Urban Development”, “Government National Mortgage Association”, “Ginnie Mae”, the acronyms “HUD”, “FHA”, or “GNMA”, or any official seal or logo of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, by any person, party, company, firm, partnership, or business, including sellers of real estate, closing agents, title companies, real estate agents, mortgage brokers, appraisers, loan correspondents, and dealers, except as authorized by the Secretary.

(c) AGENCY PROCEDURES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish standards and procedures governing the imposition of civil money penalties under subsection (a). These standards and procedures—

(A) shall provide for the Secretary to make the determination to impose the penalty or to use an administrative entity (such as the Mortgagee Review Board, established pursuant to section 202(c) of the National Housing Act) to make the determination;

(B) shall provide for the imposition of a penalty only after the mortgagee or lender or such other person or enti-

ty has been given an opportunity for a hearing on the record; and

(C) may provide for review by the Secretary of any determination or order, or interlocutory ruling, arising from a hearing.

(2) FINAL ORDERS.—If no hearing is requested within 15 days of receipt of the notice of opportunity for hearing, the imposition of the penalty shall constitute a final and unappealable determination. If the Secretary reviews the determination or order, the Secretary may affirm, modify, or reverse that determination or order. If the Secretary does not review the determination or order within 90 days of the issuance of the determination or order, the determination or order shall be final.

(3) FACTORS IN DETERMINING AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—In determining the amount of a penalty under subsection (a), consideration shall be given to such factors as the gravity of the offense, any history of prior offenses (including those before enactment of this section), ability to pay the penalty, injury to the public, benefits received, deterrence of future violations, and such other factors as the Secretary may determine in regulations to be appropriate.

(4) REVIEWABILITY OF IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—The Secretary's determination or order imposing a penalty under subsection (a) shall not be subject to review, except as provided in subsection (d).

(d) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF AGENCY DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After exhausting all administrative remedies established by the Secretary under subsection (c)(1), a mortgagee or lender or such other person or entity against whom the Secretary has imposed a civil money penalty under subsection (a) may obtain a review of the penalty and such ancillary issues (such as any administrative sanctions under 24 C.F.R. parts 24 and 25) as may be addressed in the notice of determination to impose a penalty under subsection (c)(1)(A) in the appropriate court of appeals of the United States, by filing in such court, within 20 days after the entry of such order or determination, a written petition praying that the Secretary's determination or order be modified or be set aside in whole or in part.

(2) OBJECTIONS NOT RAISED IN HEARING.—The court shall not consider any objection that was not raised in the hearing conducted pursuant to subsection (c)(1) unless a demonstration is made of extraordinary circumstances causing the failure to raise the objection. If any party demonstrates to the satisfaction of the court that additional evidence not presented at the hearing is material and that there were reasonable grounds for the failure to present such evidence at the hearing, the court shall remand the matter to the Secretary for consideration of the additional evidence.

(3) SCOPE OF REVIEW.—The decisions, findings, and determinations of the Secretary shall be reviewed pursuant to section 706 of title 5, United States Code.

(4) ORDER TO PAY PENALTY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any such review, the court shall have the power to order payment of the penalty imposed by the Secretary.

(e) ACTION TO COLLECT PENALTY.—If any mortgagee or lender or such other person or entity fails to comply with the Secretary's determination or order imposing a civil money penalty under subsection (a), after the determination or order is no longer subject to review as provided by subsections (c)(1) and (d), the Secretary may request the Attorney General of the United States to bring an action in an appropriate United States district court to obtain a monetary judgment against the mortgagee or lender or such other person or entity and such other relief as may be available. The monetary judgment may, in the court's discretion, include the attorneys fees and other expenses incurred by the United States in connection with the action. In an action under this subsection, the validity and appropriateness of the Secretary's determination or order imposing the penalty shall not be subject to review.

(f) SETTLEMENT BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit any civil money penalty which may be, or has been, imposed under this section.

(g) DEFINITION OF KNOWINGLY.—For purposes of this section, a person acts knowingly when a person has actual knowledge of the acts or should have known of the acts.

(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations as the Secretary deems appropriate to implement this section.

(i) DEPOSIT OF PENALTIES IN INSURANCE FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all civil money penalties collected under this section shall be deposited in the appropriate insurance fund or funds established under this Act, as determined by the Secretary.

CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES AGAINST MULTIFAMILY MORTGAGORS

SEC. 537. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–15] (a) IN GENERAL.—The penalties set forth in this section shall be in addition to any other available civil remedy or any available criminal penalty, and may be imposed whether or not the Secretary imposes other administrative sanctions. The Secretary may not impose penalties under this section for violations a material cause of which are the failure of the Department, an agent of the Department, or a public housing agency to comply with existing agreements.

(b) PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF AGREEMENT AS CONDITION OF TRANSFER OF PHYSICAL ASSETS, FLEXIBLE SUBSIDY LOAN, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN, MODIFICATION OF MORTGAGE TERMS, OR WORK-OUT AGREEMENT.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—Whenever a mortgagor of property that includes 5 or more living units and that has a mortgage insured, co-insured, or held pursuant to this Act, who has agreed in writing, as a condition of a transfer of physical assets, a flexible subsidy loan, a capital improvement loan, a modification of the mortgage terms, or a workout agreement, to use nonproject income to make cash contributions for payments due under the note and mortgage, for payments to the reserve

for replacements, to restore the project to good physical condition, or to pay other project liabilities, knowingly and materially fails to comply with any of these commitments, the Secretary may impose a civil money penalty on that mortgagor, on a general partner of a partnership mortgagor, or on any officer or director of a corporate mortgagor in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—The amount of the penalty, as determined by the Secretary, for a violation of this subsection may not exceed the amount of the loss the Secretary would experience at a foreclosure sale, or a sale after foreclosure, of the property involved.

(c) OTHER VIOLATIONS.—

(1)¹³⁰

(A) LIABLE PARTIES.—The Secretary may also impose a civil money penalty under this section on—

(i) any mortgagor of a property that includes 5 or more living units and that has a mortgage insured, co-insured, or held pursuant to this Act;

(ii) any general partner of a partnership mortgagor of such property;

(iii) any officer or director of a corporate mortgagor;

(iv) any agent employed to manage the property that has an identity of interest with the mortgagor, with the general partner of a partnership mortgagor, or with any officer or director of a corporate mortgagor of such property; or

(v) any member of a limited liability company that is the mortgagor of such property or is the general partner of a limited partnership mortgagor or is a partner of a general partnership mortgagor.

(B) VIOLATIONS.—A penalty may be imposed under this section upon any liable party under subparagraph (A) that knowingly and materially takes any of the following actions:

(i) Conveyance, transfer, or encumbrance of any of the mortgaged property, or permitting the conveyance, transfer, or encumbrance of such property, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(ii) Assignment, transfer, disposition, or encumbrance of any personal property of the project, including rents, other revenues, or contract rights, or paying out any funds, except for reasonable operating expenses and necessary repairs, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(iii) Conveyance, assignment, or transfer of any beneficial interest in any trust holding title to the property, or the interest of any general partner in a partnership owning the property, or any right to manage or receive the rents and profits from the mort-

¹³⁰ So in law.

gaged property, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(iv) Remodeling, adding to, reconstructing, or demolishing any part of the mortgaged property or subtracting from any real or personal property of the project, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(v) Requiring, as a condition of the occupancy or leasing of any unit in the project, any consideration or deposit other than the prepayment of the first month's rent, plus a security deposit in an amount not in excess of 1 month's rent, to guarantee the performance of the covenants of the lease.

(vi) Not holding any funds collected as security deposits separate and apart from all other funds of the project in a trust account, the amount of which at all times equals or exceeds the aggregate of all outstanding obligations under the account.

(vii) Payment for services, supplies, or materials which exceeds \$500 and substantially exceeds the amount ordinarily paid for such services, supplies, or materials in the area where the services are rendered or the supplies or materials furnished.

(viii) Failure to maintain at any time the mortgaged property, equipment, buildings, plans, offices, apparatus, devices, books, contracts, records, documents, and other related papers (including failure to keep copies of all written contracts or other instruments which affect the mortgaged property) in reasonable condition for proper audit and for examination and inspection at any reasonable time by the Secretary or any duly authorized agents of the Secretary.

(ix) Failure to maintain the books and accounts of the operations of the mortgaged property and of the project in accordance with requirements prescribed by the Secretary.

(x) Failure to furnish the Secretary, by the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the first day after the completion of each fiscal year (unless the Secretary has approved an extension of the 90-day period in writing), with a complete annual financial report, in accordance with requirements prescribed by the Secretary, including requirements that the report be—

(I) based upon an examination of the books and records of the mortgagor;

(II) prepared and certified to by an independent public accountant or a certified public accountant (unless the Secretary has waived this requirement in writing); and

(III) certified to by the mortgagor or an authorized representative of the mortgagor.

¹³¹The Secretary shall approve an extension where the mortgagor demonstrates that failure to comply with this clause is due to events beyond the control of the mortgagor.

(xi) At the request of the Secretary, the agents of the Secretary, the employees of the Secretary, or the attorneys of the Secretary, failure to furnish monthly occupancy reports or failure to provide specific answers to questions upon which information is sought relative to income, assets, liabilities, contracts, the operation and condition of the property, or the status of the mortgage.

(xii) Failure to make promptly all payments due under the note and mortgage, including mortgage insurance premiums, tax and insurance escrow payments, and payments to the reserve for replacements when there is adequate project income available to make such payments.

(xiii) Failure to maintain the premises, accommodations, any living unit in the project, and the grounds and equipment appurtenant thereto in good repair and condition in accordance with regulations and requirements of the Secretary, except that nothing in this clause shall have the effect of altering the provisions of an existing regulatory agreement or federally insured mortgage on the property.

(xiv) Failure, by a mortgagor, a general partner of a partnership mortgagor, or an officer or director of a corporate mortgagor, to provide management for the project that is acceptable to the Secretary pursuant to regulations and requirements of the Secretary.

(xv) Failure to provide access to the books, records, and accounts related to the operations of the mortgaged property and of the project.

The pay out of surplus cash, as defined by and provided for in the regulatory agreement, shall not constitute a violation of this subsection.

(2) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—A penalty imposed for a violation under this subsection, as determined by the Secretary, may not exceed \$25,000.

(d) AGENCY PROCEDURES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish standards and procedures governing the imposition of civil money penalties under subsections (b) and (c). These standards and procedures—

(A) shall provide for the Secretary or other department official (such as the Assistant Secretary for Housing) to make the determination to impose a penalty;

(B) shall provide for the imposition of a penalty only after the mortgagor, general partner of a partnership mortgagor, officer or director of a corporate mortgagor, or

¹³¹ Indented so in law.

identity of interest agent employed to manage the property has been given an opportunity for a hearing on the record; and

(C) may provide for review by the Secretary of any determination or order, or interlocutory ruling, arising from a hearing.

(2) FINAL ORDERS.—If no hearing is requested within 15 days of receipt of the notice of opportunity for hearing, the imposition of the penalty shall constitute a final and unappealable determination. If the Secretary reviews the determination or order, the Secretary may affirm, modify, or reverse that determination or order. If the Secretary does not review the determination or order within 90 days of the issuance of the determination or order, the determination or order shall be final.

(3) FACTORS IN DETERMINING AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—In determining the amount of a penalty under subsection (b) or (c), consideration shall be given to such factors as the gravity of the offense, any history of prior offenses (including offenses occurring before enactment of this section), ability to pay the penalty, injury to the tenants, injury to the public, benefits received, deterrence of future violations, and such other factors as the Secretary may determine in regulations to be appropriate.

(4) REVIEWABILITY OF IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—The Secretary's determination or order imposing a penalty under subsection (b) or (c) shall not be subject to review, except as provided in subsection (e).

(5) PAYMENT OF PENALTY.—No payment of a civil money penalty levied under this section shall be payable out of project income.

(e) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF AGENCY DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After exhausting all administrative remedies established by the Secretary under subsection (d)(1), an entity or person against whom the Secretary has imposed a civil money penalty under subsection (b) or (c) may obtain a review of the penalty and such ancillary issues as may be addressed in the notice of determination to impose a penalty under subsection (d)(1)(A) in the appropriate court of appeals of the United States, by filing in such court, within 20 days after the entry of such order or determination, a written petition praying that the Secretary's order or determination be modified or be set aside in whole or in part.

(2) OBJECTIONS NOT RAISED IN HEARING.—The court shall not consider any objection that was not raised in the hearing conducted pursuant to subsection (d)(1) unless a demonstration is made of extraordinary circumstances causing the failure to raise the objection. If any party demonstrates to the satisfaction of the court that additional evidence not presented at such hearing is material and that there were reasonable grounds for the failure to present such evidence at the hearing, the court shall remand the matter to the Secretary for consideration of such additional evidence.

(3) SCOPE OF REVIEW.—The decisions, findings, and determinations of the Secretary shall be reviewed pursuant to section 706 of title 5, United States Code.

(4) ORDER TO PAY PENALTY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any such review, the court shall have the power to order payment of the penalty imposed by the Secretary.

(f) CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES AGAINST MULTIFAMILY MORTGAGORS, GENERAL PARTNERS OF PARTNERSHIP MORTGAGORS, OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF CORPORATE MORTGAGORS, AND CERTAIN MANAGING AGENTS.—If a mortgagor, general partner of a partnership mortgagor, officer or director of a corporate mortgagor, or identity of interest agent employed to manage the property fails to comply with the Secretary's determination or order imposing a civil money penalty under subsection (b) or (c), after the determination or order is no longer subject to review as provided by subsections (d)(1) and (e), the Secretary may request the Attorney General of the United States to bring an action in an appropriate United States district court to obtain a monetary judgment against the mortgagor, general partner of a partnership mortgagor, officer or director of a corporate mortgagor, or identity of interest agent employed to manage the property and such other relief as may be available. The monetary judgment may, in the court's discretion, include the attorneys fees and other expenses incurred by the United States in connection with the action. In an action under this subsection, the validity and appropriateness of the Secretary's determination or order imposing the penalty shall not be subject to review.

(g) SETTLEMENT BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit any civil money penalty which may be, or has been, imposed under this section.

(h) DEFINITION OF KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” means having actual knowledge of or acting with deliberate ignorance of or reckless disregard for the prohibitions under this section.

(i) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations as the Secretary deems appropriate to implement this section.

(j) DEPOSIT OF PENALTIES IN INSURANCE FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all civil money penalties collected under this section shall be deposited in the fund established under section 201(j) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978.

(k) IDENTITY OF INTEREST MANAGING AGENT.—In this section, the terms “agent employed to manage the property that has an identity of interest” and “identity of interest agent” mean an entity—

- (1) that has management responsibility for a project;
- (2) in which the ownership entity, including its general partner or partners (if applicable) and its officers or directors (if applicable), has an ownership interest; and
- (3) over which the ownership entity exerts effective control.

ANNUAL AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEC. 538. [12 U.S.C. 1735f-16] With respect to fiscal year 1989 and for every fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary shall make

available to the public a financial statement of the insurance funds established under this Act that will present their financial condition on a cash and accrual basis, consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. Each financial statement shall be audited by an independent accounting firm selected by the Secretary and the results of such audit shall be made available to the public.

EXAMINATIONS AND SANCTIONS FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS

SEC. 539. (a) [12 U.S.C. 1735f–17] EXAMINATIONS AND SANCTIONS.—

(1) In connection with any examination of a mortgagee approved by the Secretary pursuant to this Act, the Secretary shall assess the performance of the mortgagee in meeting the requirements of sections 203(t), 223(a)(7)(B), and 535. Where the Secretary determines that a mortgagee is not in compliance with these requirements, the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Mortgagee Review Board for investigation and appropriate action.

(2) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act,¹³² the Secretary shall by notice establish a procedure under which (A) any person may file a request that the Secretary determine whether a mortgagee is in compliance with sections 203(t), 223(a)(7)(B), and 535, (B) the Secretary shall inform the person of the disposition of the request, and (C) the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register the disposition of any case referred by the Secretary to the Mortgagee Review Board. Such procedures shall be established by regulation under section 553 of title 5, United States Code. The Secretary shall issue regulations based on the initial notice before the expiration of the 8-month period beginning on the date of the notice.

(3) The Secretary shall submit to Congress, not less than annually, a report regarding any actions taken to carry out this section. The report shall include a list of all requests filed pursuant to paragraph (2) and any action taken pursuant to such requests.

(b) MONITORING AND REVIEW.—The Secretary shall continually monitor and undertake a thorough review of the implementation of this section to assess the impact of the section on the lending practices of mortgagees and the availability of mortgages insured under this Act. The Secretary shall monitor the availability of credit, the number and type of lenders participating in the program, whether there is any change in the composition or practices of such lenders and any other factors the Secretary considers appropriate. The Secretary shall submit to the Congress findings detailing the results of such monitoring and review not later than 18 months after the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act.

¹³²The date of enactment was November 28, 1990.

INFORMATION REGARDING EARLY DEFAULTS AND FORECLOSURES ON
INSURED MORTGAGES

SEC. 540. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–18] (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall collect and maintain information regarding early defaults on mortgages as provided under this section. The Secretary shall make such information available for public inspection upon request. Information shall be collected quarterly with respect to each applicable collection period (as such term is defined in subsection (c)) and shall be available for inspection not more than 30 days after the conclusion of the calendar quarter relating to each such period. Information shall first be made available under this section for the applicable collection period relating to the first calendar quarter ending more than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act.¹³³

(b) CONTENTS.—

(1) MORTGAGE LENDER ANALYSIS.—Information collected under this section shall include, for each lender originating mortgages during the applicable collection period that are insured pursuant to section 203 and secured by property in a designated census tract, the following information with respect to such mortgages:

(A) The name of the lender and the number of each designated census tract in which the lender originated 1 or more such mortgages during the applicable collection period.

(B) The total number of such mortgages originated by such lender during the applicable collection period in each designated census tract and the number of mortgages originated each year in each designated census tract.

(C) The total number of defaults and foreclosures on such mortgages during the applicable collection period in each designated census tract and the number of defaults and foreclosures in each designated census tract in each year of the period.

(D) For each designated census tract, the percentage of such lender's total insured mortgages originated during each year of the applicable collection period (with respect to properties within such census tract) on which defaults or foreclosures have occurred during the applicable collection period.

(E) The total of all such originations, defaults, and foreclosures on insured mortgages originated by such lender during the applicable collection period for all designated census tracts and the percentage of the total number of such lender's insured mortgage originations on which defaults or foreclosures have occurred during the applicable collection period.

(2) OTHER INFORMATION.—Information collected under this section shall also include the following:

¹³³ The date of enactment was November 28, 1990.

(A) For each lender referred to under paragraph (1), the total number of insured mortgages originated by the lender secured by properties not located in a designated census tract, the total number of defaults and foreclosures on such mortgages, and the percentage of such mortgages originated on which defaults or foreclosures occurred during the applicable collection period.

(B) For each designated census tract, the total number of mortgages originated during the applicable collection period that are insured pursuant to section 203, the number of defaults and foreclosures occurring on such mortgages during such period, and the percentage of the total insured mortgage originations during the period on which defaults or foreclosures occurred.

(c) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—The Secretary shall submit to the Congress annually a report containing the information collected and maintained under subsection (b) for the relevant year.¹³⁴

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section:

(1) **APPLICABLE COLLECTION PERIOD.**—The term “applicable collection period” means the 5-year period ending on the last day of the calendar quarter for which information under this section is collected.

(2) **DESIGNATED CENSUS TRACT.**—The term “designated census tract” means a census tract located within a metropolitan statistical area, as defined pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary of Commerce.

PARTIAL PAYMENT OF CLAIMS ON DEFAULTED MORTGAGES AND IN
CONNECTION WITH MORTGAGE RESTRUCTURING

SEC. 541. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–19] (a) **DEFAULTED MORTGAGES.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the Secretary is requested to accept assignment of a mortgage insured by the Secretary that covers a multifamily housing project (as such term is defined in section 203(b) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 or a health care facility (including a nursing home, intermediate care facility, or board and care home (as those terms are defined in section 232 of this Act), a hospital (as that term is defined in section 242 of this Act), or a group practice facility (as that term is defined in section 1106 of this Act)))¹³⁵ and the Secretary determines that partial payment would be less costly to the Federal Government than other reasonable alternatives for maintaining the low-income character of the project, or for keeping the health care facility operational to serve community needs, the Secretary may request the mortgagee, in lieu of assignment, to—

(1) accept partial payment of the claim under the mortgage insurance contract; and

¹³⁴ Section 3003(a)(1) of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104–66, which is set forth *post* in part XII of this compilation, provides that certain provisions of law requiring submittal to Congress of an annual, semiannual, or other regular periodic report shall cease to be effective on May 15, 2000. This subsection is covered by such provision. However, section 1102 of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, Public Law 106–569, set forth *post* in part XII of this compilation, provides that such section 3003(a)(1) shall not apply to the report required to be submitted under this subsection.

¹³⁵ So in law.

(2) recast the mortgage, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine.

(b) EXISTING MORTGAGES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary, in connection with a mortgage restructuring under section 514 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997, may make a one time, non-default partial or full payment of claim under one or more mortgage insurance contracts, which shall include a determination by the Secretary or the participating administrative entity, in accordance with the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997, of the market value of the project and a restructuring of the mortgage, under such terms and conditions as are permitted by section 517(a) of such Act.

(c) REPAYMENT.—As a condition to a partial claim payment under this section, the mortgagor shall agree to repay to the Secretary the amount of such payment and such obligation shall be secured by a second mortgage on the property on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine.

SEC. 542. [12 U.S.C. 1735f–20] AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK INSURANCE FUNDS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 1994 and 1995, to be allocated in any manner that the Secretary determines appropriate, for the following costs incurred in conjunction with programs authorized under the General Insurance Fund, as provided by section 519, and the Special Risk Insurance Fund, as provided by section 238:

(1) The cost to the Government, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act, of new insurance commitments.

(2) The cost to the Government, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act, of modifications to existing loans, loan guarantees, or insurance commitments.

(3) The cost to the Government, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act, of loans provided under section 203(f) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978.

(4) The costs of the rehabilitation of multifamily housing projects (as defined in section 203(b) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978) upon disposition by the Secretary.

TITLE VI—WAR HOUSING INSURANCE

[Note.—Title VI of the National Housing Act authorized the Secretary to ensure mortgages for sale and rental housing to relieve the acute housing shortage and provide housing for World War II veterans.]

TITLE VII—INSURANCE FOR INVESTMENTS IN RENTAL HOUSING FOR FAMILIES OF MODERATE INCOME

【Note.—Title VII of the National Housing Act provided a special system of insurance designed to encourage equity investment in rental housing for families of moderate income.】

TITLE VIII—ARMED SERVICES HOUSING MORTGAGE INSURANCE¹³⁶

SEC. 801. 【12 U.S.C. 1748】 As used in this title—

(a) The term “mortgage” means a first mortgage on real estate, in fee simple, or on a leasehold (1) under a lease for not less than ninety-nine years which is renewable; or (2) under a lease for a period of not less than fifty years to run from the date the mortgage was executed; and the term “first mortgage” means such classes of first liens as are commonly given to secure advances on, or the unpaid purchase price of, real estate, under the law of the State in which the real estate is located, together with the credit instruments, if any, secured thereby.

(b) The term “mortgagee” includes the original lender under a mortgage, and his successors and assigns approved by the Secretary; and the term “mortgagor” includes the original borrower under a mortgage, his successors and assigns.

(c) The term “maturity date” means the date on which the mortgage indebtedness would be extinguished if paid in accordance with periodic payments provided for in the mortgage.

(d) The term “housing accommodations” means housing designed for occupancy by military personnel and their dependents, assigned to duty at or near the military installation where such housing units are constructed.

(e) The term “personnel” shall include military and civilian personnel approved by the Secretary of Defense, or his designee, and the dependents of all such personnel.

(f) The term “military” includes Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard.

(g) The term “State” includes the several States and Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Virgin Islands, the Canal Zone, and Midway Island.

【SEC. 802. 【Repealed.】】

SEC. 803. 【12 U.S.C. 1748b】 (a) In order to assist in relieving the acute shortage and urgent need for family housing which now exists at or in areas adjacent to military installations because of uncertainty as to the permanency of such installations and to increase the supply of necessary family housing accommodations for personnel at such installations, the Secretary is authorized, upon application of the mortgagee, to insure mortgages (including advances on such mortgages during construction) which are eligible for insurance as hereinafter provided, and, upon such terms as the Secretary may prescribe, to make commitments for so insuring such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon: *Provided*, That the aggregate amount of principal obligations of all mortgages insured under this title (except mortgages insured pursuant to the provisions of this title in effect prior to the enactment of the Housing Amendments of 1955) shall not exceed \$2,300,000,000: *And provided further*, That the limitation in sec-

¹³⁶ So in law. There are no section headings in this title.

tion 217 of this Act shall not apply to this title: *And provided further*, That no more mortgages shall be insured under this section after October 1, 1962, except pursuant to a commitment to insure before such date, and not more than twenty-eight thousand family housing units shall be contracted for after June 30, 1959, pursuant to any mortgage insured under this section after such date.

(b) To be eligible for insurance under this title a mortgage shall meet the following conditions:

(1)¹³⁷ The mortgaged property shall be held by a mortgagor approved by the Secretary. The Secretary may, in his discretion, require such mortgagor to be regulated or restricted as to capital structure, and methods of operation. The Secretary may make such contracts with, and acquire for not to exceed \$100 stock or interest in, any such mortgagor, as the Secretary may deem necessary to render effective such restriction or regulation. Such stock or interest shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund, and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance.

(2)¹³⁷ The mortgaged property shall be designed for use for residential purposes by personnel of the armed services and situated at or near a military installation, and the Secretary of Defense or his designee shall have certified that there is no intention, so far as can reasonably be foreseen, to substantially curtail the personnel assigned or to be assigned to such installation, and (i) shall have determined that for reasons of safety, security, or other essential military requirements, it is necessary that the personnel involved reside in public quarters: *Provided however*, That for the purposes of this subsection housing covered by a mortgage insured, or for which a commitment to insure has been issued, under section 803 prior to the enactment of the "Housing Amendments of 1955" may be considered the same as available quarters, and (ii) with the approval of the Secretary, shall have determined that adequate housing is not available for such personnel at reasonable rentals within reasonable commuting distance of the installation and that the mortgaged property will not, so far as can reasonably be foreseen, substantially curtail occupancy in existing housing covered by mortgages insured under this Act. The housing accommodations shall comply with such standards and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe to establish the acceptability of such property for mortgage insurance, except that the certification of the Secretary of Defense or his designee shall (for purposes of mortgage insurance under this title) be conclusive evidence to the Secretary of the existence of the need for such housing. However, if the Secretary does not concur in the housing needs as certified by the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary may require the Secretary of Defense to guarantee the General Insurance Fund against loss with respect to the mortgage covering such housing. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to provide for payment to meet losses arising from such guaranty.

(3)¹³⁷ The mortgage shall involve a principal obligation in an amount—

¹³⁷ Indented so in law.

(A) not to exceed the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when the proposed improvements are completed (the cost of the property or project as such term is used in this paragraph may include the cost of the land, the physical improvements, and utilities within the boundaries of the property or project);

(B) not to exceed an average of \$16,500 per family unit for such part of such property or project (including ranges, refrigerators, shades, screens, and fixtures) as may be attributable to dwelling use: *Provided*, That the replacement cost of the property or project as determined by the Secretary, including the estimated value of any usable utilities within the boundaries of the property or project where owned by the United States and not provided for out of the proceeds of the mortgage, shall not exceed an average of \$16,500 per family unit: *Provided further*, That should the financing of housing to be constructed pursuant to a single invitation for bids be accomplished by two or more mortgages, the principal obligation of any single mortgage may exceed an average of \$16,500 per family unit if the sum of the principal obligations of all mortgages for such housing does not exceed an average of \$16,500 per family unit: *And provided further*, That subject to the limitations of this paragraph no family unit included in any mortgaged property shall be contracted for after the date of enactment of the Military Construction Act of 1960¹³⁸ if the cost of such unit exceeds \$19,800; and

(C) not to exceed the bid of the eligible bidder with respect to the property or project under section 403 of the Housing Amendments of 1955.

The mortgage shall provide for complete amortization by periodic payments within such terms as the Secretary shall prescribe, but not to exceed thirty years from the beginning of amortization of the mortgage, and shall bear interest (exclusive of premium charges for insurance) at not to exceed $4\frac{1}{2}$ per centum per annum of the amount of the principal obligation outstanding at any time. The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and the mortgage may provide for such release. The property or project may include such nondwelling facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants.

(c) The Secretary is authorized to fix a premium charge for the insurance of mortgages under this title but in the case of any mortgage such charge shall not be less than an amount equivalent to one-half of 1 per centum per annum nor more than an amount equivalent to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per centum per annum of the amount of the principal obligation of the mortgage outstanding at any time, without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments. Such premium charges shall be payable by the mortgagee, either in cash, or in debentures issued by the Secretary under this title at par plus accrued interest, in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary: *Provided*, That the Secretary may require the payment of one or more such premium charges at the time the mortgage is insured, at such discount rate as he may prescribe not in excess of the interest rate specified in the mortgage. If the Secretary finds,

upon the presentation of a mortgage for insurance and the tender of the initial premium charge and such other charges as the Secretary may require, that the mortgage complies with the provisions of this title, such mortgage may be accepted for insurance by endorsement or otherwise as the Secretary may prescribe. In the event that the principal obligation of any mortgage accepted for insurance under this title is paid in full prior to the maturity date, the Secretary is authorized to refund to the mortgagee for the account of the mortgagor all, or such portion as he shall determine to be equitable, of the current unearned premium charges theretofore paid. The Secretary may reduce the payment of premiums provided for herein. The Secretary is further authorized to reduce the amount of the premium charge below one-half of 1 per centum per annum with respect to any mortgage on property acquired by the Secretary of Defense or his designee if the mortgage is insured pursuant to the provisions of this title as in effect prior to August 11, 1955.

(d) The failure of the mortgagor to make any payment due under or provided to be paid by the terms of a mortgage insured under this title shall be considered a default under such mortgage, and, if such default continues for a period of thirty days, the mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance as hereinafter provided, upon assignment, transfer, and delivery to the Secretary, within a period and in accordance with rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of (1) all rights and interests arising under the mortgage so in default; (2) all claims of the mortgagee against the mortgagor or others, arising out of the mortgage transactions; (3) all policies of title or other insurance or surety bonds or other guaranties and any and all claims thereunder; (4) any balance of the mortgage loan not advanced to the mortgagor; (5) any cash or property held by the mortgagee, or to which it is entitled, as deposits made for the account of the mortgagor and which have not been applied in reduction of the principal of the mortgage indebtedness; and (6) all records, documents, books, papers, and accounts relating to the mortgage transaction. Upon such assignment, transfer, and delivery, the obligation of the mortgagee to pay the premium charges for mortgage insurance shall cease, and the Secretary shall, subject to the cash adjustment provided for in subsection (e) of this section, issue to the mortgagee debentures having a total face value equal to the value of the mortgage, and a certificate of claim as hereinafter provided. For the purposes of this subsection, the value of the mortgage shall be determined in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary, by adding to the amount of the original principal obligation of the mortgage which was unpaid on the date of default, the amount the mortgagee may have paid for (A) taxes, special assessments, and water rates, which are liens prior to the mortgage; (B) insurance on the property; and (C) reasonable expenses for the completion and preservation of the property and any mortgage insurance premiums paid after default; less the sum of (i) any amount received on account of the mortgage after such date; and (ii) any net income received by the mortgagee from the property after such date.

(e) Debentures issued under this title shall be in such form and denominations in multiples of \$50, shall be subject to such terms and conditions, and shall include such provisions for redemption, if any, as may be prescribed by the Secretary with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, and may be in coupon or registered form. Any difference between the value of the mortgage determined as herein provided and the aggregate face value of the debentures issued not to exceed \$50, shall be adjusted by the payment of cash by the Secretary to the mortgagee from the General Insurance Fund.

(f) Debentures issued under this title shall be executed in the name of the General Insurance Fund as obligor, shall be signed by the Secretary, by either his written or engraved signature, and shall be negotiable. All such debentures shall be dated as of the date of default as determined in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, and shall bear interest from such date at a rate established by the Secretary pursuant to section 224, payable semiannually on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July each year, and shall mature twenty years after the date thereof. Such debentures shall be exempt, both as to principal and interest, from all taxation (except surtaxes, estate, inheritance, and gift taxes) now or hereafter imposed by any Territory, dependency, or possession of the United States or by the District of Columbia, or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority. They shall be paid out of the General Insurance Fund, which shall be primarily liable therefor, and they shall be fully and unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, and such guaranty shall be expressed on the face of the debentures. In the event the General Insurance Fund fails to pay upon demand, when due, the principal of or interest on any debentures so guaranteed, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay to the holders the amount thereof which is hereby authorized to be appropriated, and thereupon to the extent of the amount so paid the Secretary of the Treasury shall succeed to all the rights of the holders of such debentures.

(g) The certificate of claim issued by the Secretary to any mortgagee in connection with the insurance of mortgages under this title shall be for an amount determined in accordance with subsections (e) and (f) of section 604 of this Act, except that any amount remaining after the payment of the full amount under the certificate of claim shall be retained by the Secretary and credited to the General Insurance Fund.

(h) The provisions of section 207(k) and section 207(l) of this Act shall be applicable to mortgages insured under this title and to property acquired by the Secretary hereunder, except that, as applied to such mortgages and property, the reference in section 207(k) to subsection (g) shall be construed to refer to subsection (d) of this section.

(i) The Secretary shall also have power to insure under this title or title II any mortgage executed in connection with the sale by him of any property acquired under this title without regard to any limit as to eligibility, time or aggregate amount contained in this title or title II.

(j) Any contract of insurance executed by the Secretary under this title shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of the mort-

gage for insurance and the validity of any contract of insurance so executed shall be incontestable in the hands of an approved mortgagee from the date of the execution of such contract, except for fraud or misrepresentation on the part of such approved mortgagee.

(k) The Secretary shall not insure any mortgage under this section unless the principal contractor or contractors engaged in the construction of the project involved file a certificate or certificates (at such times, in the course of construction or otherwise, as the Secretary may prescribe) certifying that the laborers and mechanics employed in the construction of such project have been paid not less than one and one-half times the regular rate of pay for employment in excess of eight hours in any one day or in excess of forty hours in any one week.

[SEC. 804. [Repealed.]]

SEC. 805. [12 U.S.C. 1748d] Whenever the Secretary of the Army, Navy, or Air Force determines that it is necessary to lease any land held by the United States on or near a military installation to effectuate the purposes of this title, he may lease such land upon such terms and conditions as will, in his opinion, best serve the national interest. The authority conferred by this section shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other power or authority of the Secretary of the Army, Navy, or Air Force.

SEC. 806. [12 U.S.C. 1748e] The second sentence of section 214 of the National Housing Act, as amended, relating to housing in the State of Alaska, shall not apply to mortgages insured under this title on property in said State.

SEC. 807. [12 U.S.C. 1748f] The Secretary is authorized and directed to make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

SEC. 808. [12 U.S.C. 1748g] Except in the case of mortgages on multifamily rental housing projects insured under section 810, the cost certification required under section 227 of this Act shall not be required with respect to mortgages insured under the provisions of this title as amended by the Housing Amendments of 1955.¹³⁹

SEC. 809. [12 U.S.C. 1748h-1] (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this title and in addition to mortgages insured under section 803, the Secretary may insure any mortgage under this section which meets the eligibility requirements set forth in section 203(b) of this Act: *Provided*, That a mortgage insured under this section shall have been executed by a mortgagor who at the time of insurance is the owner of the property and either occupies the property or certifies that his failure to do so is the result of a change in his employment by the Armed Forces or a contractor thereof and to whom the Secretary of Defense or his designee has issued a certificate indicating that such person requires housing and is at the date of the certificate a civilian employee at a research or development installation of one of the military departments of the United States or a contractor thereof and is consid-

¹³⁹Section 4 of Pub. L. 216, 84th Congress, 69 Stat. 448, approved August 3, 1955, amended the Renegotiation Act of 1951 to provide for renegotiation of any contract awarded for the construction of housing financed with a mortgage or mortgages insured under the provisions of title VIII, as amended.

ered by such military department to be an essential, nontemporary employee at such date. Such certificate shall be conclusive evidence to the Secretary of the employment status of the mortgagor and of the mortgagor's need for housing.

(b) No mortgage shall be insured under this section unless the Secretary of Defense or his designee shall have certified to the Secretary that the housing is necessary to provide adequate housing for such civilians employed in connection with such a research or development installation and that there is no present intention to substantially curtail the number of such civilian personnel assigned or to be assigned to such installation. Such certification shall be conclusive evidence to the Secretary of the need for such housing but if the Secretary determines that insurance of mortgages on such housing is not an acceptable risk, he may require the Secretary of Defense to guarantee the General Insurance Fund from loss with respect to mortgages insured pursuant to this section: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall relieve the Secretary of Defense from any obligation to guarantee the General Insurance Fund from loss with respect to a mortgage assumed by a person ineligible to receive a certificate under subsection (a), if the original mortgagor is issued another certificate with respect to a mortgage insured under this section on property which the Secretary determines is not an acceptable risk. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to provide for payment to meet losses arising from such guaranty.

(c) The Secretary may accept any mortgage for insurance under this section without regard to any requirement in any other section of this Act, that the project or property be economically sound or an acceptable risk.

(d) Any mortgagee under a mortgage insured under this section is entitled to the benefits of insurance as provided in section 204(a) with respect to mortgages insured under section 203.

(e) The provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), and (k) of section 204 shall apply to mortgages insured under this section except that as applicable to those mortgages: (1) all references to the "Fund" or "Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund" shall refer to the "General Insurance Fund" and (2) all references to section 203 shall refer to this section.

(f) The provisions of sections 801, 802, 803(c), 803(i), 803(j), 804(a), 804(b), and 807 and the provisions of section 803(a) relating to the aggregate amount of all mortgages insured under this title, shall be applicable to mortgages insured under this section.

(g)(1) A mortgage secured by property which is intended to provide housing for a person (i) employed or assigned to duty at or in connection with any research or development installation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and which is located at or near such installation, or (ii) employed at any research or development installation of the Atomic Energy Commission and which is located at or near such installation, may (if the mortgage otherwise meets the requirements of this section) be insured by the Secretary under the provisions of this section. The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (or his designee), in the case of any mortgage secured by property intended to provide housing for any person employed or assigned to duty at

any such installation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission (or his designee), in the case of any mortgage secured by property intended to provide housing for any person employed at such installation of the Atomic Energy Commission, is authorized to guarantee and indemnify the General Insurance Fund against loss to the extent required by the Secretary, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

(2) For purpose of this subsection—

(i)¹⁴⁰ The terms “Armed Forces”, “one of the military departments of the United States”, “military department”, “Secretary of Defense or his designee”, and “Secretary”, when used in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, shall be deemed to refer to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (or the Administrator thereof), or the Atomic Energy Commission (or the Chairman thereof), as may be appropriate;

(ii)¹⁴¹ The term “Secretary of the Army, Navy, or Air Force”, when used in section 805, shall be deemed to refer to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or the Administrator thereof, as may be appropriate;

(iii)¹⁴² The terms “civilian employee”, “civilians”, and “civilian personnel”, as used in this section, shall be deemed to refer to (A) employees of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or a contractor thereof or to military personnel assigned to duty at an installation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or (B) persons employed at or in connection with any research or development installation of the Atomic Energy Commission, as the case may be; and

(iv)¹⁴³ The term “military installation” when used in section 805 shall be deemed to refer to an installation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

SEC. 810. [12 U.S.C. 1748h–2] (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Secretary may insure and make commitments to insure any mortgage under this section which meets the eligibility requirements hereinafter set forth.

(b) No mortgage shall be insured under this section unless (1) the housing which is covered by the insured mortgage is necessary in the interest of national security in order to provide adequate housing for (A) military personnel and essential civilian personnel serving or employed in connection with any installation of one of the armed services of the United States, or (B) essential personnel employed or assigned to duty at or in connection with any research or development installation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or of the Atomic Energy Commission, (2) there is no present intention to curtail substantially the number of such personnel assigned or to be assigned to the installation, (3) adequate housing is not available for such personnel at reasonable rentals within reasonable commuting distances of such installations, and (4) the mortgaged property will not so far as can be rea-

¹⁴⁰ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (A).

¹⁴¹ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (B).

¹⁴² So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (C).

¹⁴³ So in law. Probably should be designated as subparagraph (D).

sonably foreseen substantially curtail occupancy in any existing housing in the vicinity of the installation which is covered by mortgages insured under this Act.

(c) The Secretary may accept any mortgage for insurance under this section without regard to any requirement in any other section of this Act that the property or project be economically sound.

(d) The Secretary shall require each project covered by a mortgage insured under this section to be held for rental for a period of not less than five years after the project or dwelling is made available for initial occupancy or until he finds that the housing may be released from such rental condition. The Secretary shall prescribe such procedures as in his judgment are necessary to secure reasonable preference or priority in the sale or rental of dwellings covered by a mortgage insured under this section for military personnel and essential civilian employees of the armed services, employees of contractors for the armed services and persons described in clause (1)(B) of subsection (b) of this section.

(e) For the purpose of providing multifamily rental housing projects or housing projects consisting of individual single-family dwellings for sale, the Secretary is authorized to insure mortgages (including advances on such mortgages during construction) which cover property held by a mortgagor approved by the Secretary. Any such mortgagor shall possess powers necessary therefor and incidental thereto and shall until the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under such insurance be regulated or restricted as to rents or sales, charges, capital structure, rate of return, and methods of operation to such extent and in such manner as to provide reasonable rentals to tenants and a reasonable return on the investment. The Secretary may make such contracts with, and acquire for not to exceed \$100 such stock or interest in, any such mortgagor as he may deem necessary to render effective such restriction or regulation. Such stock or interest shall be paid for out of the General Insurance Fund, and shall be redeemed by the mortgagor at par upon the termination of all obligations of the Secretary under the insurance.

(f) To be eligible for insurance under this section, a mortgage on any multifamily rental property or project shall involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed, for such part of such property or project as may be attributable to dwelling use, \$9,000 per family unit without a bedroom, \$12,500 per family unit with one bedroom, \$15,000 per family unit with two bedrooms, and \$18,500 per family unit with three or more bedrooms and not to exceed 90 per centum of the estimated value of the property or project when the proposed physical improvements are completed. The Secretary may, by regulation, increase any of the foregoing dollar amount limitations contained in this paragraph by not to exceed 45 per centum in any geographical area where he finds that cost levels so require.

(g) To be eligible for insurance under this section a mortgage on any property or project constructed for eventual sale or single-family dwellings, shall involve a principal obligation in an amount not to exceed a sum computed on the basis of a separate mortgage for each single-family dwelling (irrespective of whether such dwell-

ing has a party wall or is otherwise physically connected with another dwelling or dwellings) comprising the property, or project equal to the total of each of the maximum principal obligations of such mortgages which would meet the requirements of section 203(b)(2) of this Act if the mortgagor were the owner and occupant who had made the required payment on account of the property prescribed in such paragraph.

(h) Any mortgage insured under this section shall provide for complete amortization by periodic payments within such terms as the Secretary may prescribe but not to exceed the maximum term applicable to mortgages under section 207 of this Act and shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee, except that individual mortgages of the character described in subsection (g) covering the individual dwellings in the project may have a term not in excess of the maximum term applicable to mortgages insured under section 203 of this Act or the unexpired term of the project mortgage at the time of the release of the mortgaged property from such project mortgage, whichever is the greater, and shall bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee. The Secretary may consent to the release of a part or parts of the mortgaged property from the lien of the mortgage upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe and the mortgage may provide for such release, and a mortgage of the character described in subsection (g) of this section may provide that, at any time after the release of the project from the rental period prescribed by subsection (d), such mortgage may be replaced, in whole or in part, by individual mortgages covering each individual dwelling in the project in amounts not to exceed the unpaid balance of the blanket mortgage allocable to the individual property. Each such individual mortgage may be insured under this section. Property covered by a mortgage insured under this section may include eight or more family units and may include such commercial and community facilities as the Secretary deems adequate to serve the occupants.

(i) The aggregate number of dwelling units (including all units in multifamily projects or individual dwellings) covered by outstanding commitments to insure and mortgages insured under this section shall at no time exceed five thousand dwelling units.

(j) The provisions of subsections (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (n) of section 207 of this title shall be applicable to mortgages insured under this section except individual mortgages of the character described in subsection (g) of this section covering the individual dwellings in the project, and as to such individual mortgages the provisions of subsections (a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), and (k) of section 204 shall be applicable: *Provided*, That wherever the word "Fund", or "Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund" appear in section 204, such reference shall refer to the General Insurance Fund with respect to mortgages insured under this section.

(k) The provisions of sections 801, 802, 803(c), 803(i), 803(j), 804(a), 804(b), and 807 and the provisions of section 803(a) relating to the aggregate amount of all mortgages insured under this title shall be applicable to mortgages insured under this section.

SEC. 811. [12 U.S.C. 1748h-3] (a) The Secretary is authorized to make payments in lieu of taxes on any real property to which

title has been or is hereafter acquired by him in fee under section 803 as effective prior to August 11, 1955, and on which taxes or payments in lieu of such taxes were payable or paid prior to acquisition by the Secretary. Such payments may be made in connection with tax years occurring prior to or subsequent to the date of the enactment of this section. The amount of any such payments shall not exceed taxes on similar property and shall not include interest or penalties. If the Secretary has acquired or hereafter acquires title in fee to real property by foreclosure or by transfer from some other department or agency of the Government or otherwise during a tax year, he may make a payment in lieu of taxes prorated for that portion of the year remaining after his acquisition of title. This subsection shall not authorize any lien against property held by the Secretary, nor the payment of any tax, nor any payment in lieu of any tax, on any interest of the Secretary as lessee or mortgagee.

(b) Nothing in this title shall be construed to exempt any real property which has been or is hereafter acquired and held by the Secretary under section 809 or 810 from taxation by any State or political subdivision thereof, to the same extent, according to its value, as other real property is taxed.

TITLE IX—NATIONAL DEFENSE HOUSING INSURANCE

【Note.—Title IX of the National Housing Act provides a new mortgage insurance program designed to encourage the production of housing in critical defense housing areas.】

【TITLE X—MORTGAGE INSURANCE FOR LAND DEVELOPMENT

【Note.—Title X of the National Housing Act provided a mortgage insurance program designed to encourage purchase of raw acreage and development of improved buildings and related sites in an orderly and economical manner. Title X was repealed by section 133(a) of Public Law 101–235.】¹⁴⁴

TITLE XI—MORTGAGE INSURANCE FOR GROUP PRACTICE FACILITIES

INSURANCE OF MORTGAGES

SEC. 1101. 【12 U.S.C. 1749aaa】 (a) The Secretary is authorized (1) to insure mortgages (including advances on such mortgages during construction) upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, in accordance with the provisions of this title, and (2) to

¹⁴⁴ Subsections (b) and (c) of section 133 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989, Pub. L. 101–235, approved December 15, 1989, 12 U.S.C. 1749aa note, provide as follows:

“(b) APPLICABILITY.—On or after the date of enactment of this Act, no mortgage may be insured under title X, as such title existed immediately before such date, except pursuant to a commitment to insure made before such date.

“(c) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Any contract of insurance entered into under title X before the date of enactment of this Act shall be governed by the provisions of such title as such title existed immediately before such date.”.

make commitments for the insuring of such mortgages prior to the date of their execution or disbursement thereon.

(b) To be eligible for insurance under this title, the mortgage shall (1) be executed by a mortgagor that is a group practice unit or organization or other mortgagor, approved by the Secretary, (2) be made to and held by a mortgagee approved by the Secretary as responsible and able to service the mortgage properly, and (3) cover a property or project which is approved for mortgage insurance prior to the beginning of construction or rehabilitation and is designed for use as a group practice facility or medical practice facility which the Secretary finds will be constructed in an economical manner, will not be of elaborate or extravagant design or materials, and will be adequate and suitable for carrying out the purposes of this title. No mortgage shall be insured under this title unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the applicant would be unable to obtain the mortgage loan without such insurance on terms comparable to those specified in subsection (c).

(c) The mortgage shall—

[(1) **Repealed.**]

(2) not exceed 90 per centum of the amount which the Secretary estimates will be the replacement cost of the property or project when construction or rehabilitation is completed. The replacement cost of the property may include the land and the proposed physical improvements, equipment, utilities within the boundaries of the property, a solar energy system (as defined in subparagraph (3) of the last paragraph of section 2(a) of this Act) or residential energy conservation measures (as defined in section 210(11) (A) through (G) and (I) of Public Law 95-619) in cases where the Secretary determines that such measures are in addition to those required under the minimum property standards and will be cost-effective over the life of the measure, architects' fees, taxes, and interest accruing during construction or rehabilitation, and other miscellaneous charges incident to construction or rehabilitation and approved by the Secretary;

(3) have a maturity satisfactory to the Secretary but not to exceed twenty-five years from the beginning of amortization of the mortgage, and provide for complete amortization of the principal obligation by periodic payments within such terms as the Secretary shall prescribe; and

(4) bear interest at such rate as may be agreed upon by the mortgagor and the mortgagee.

(d) Any contract of insurance executed by the Secretary under this title shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of the mortgage for insurance, and the validity of any contract for insurance so executed shall be incontestable in the hands of an approved mortgagee from the date of the execution of such contract, except for fraud or misrepresentation on the part of such approved mortgagee.

(e) Each mortgage insured under this title shall contain an undertaking (in accordance with regulations prescribed under this title and in force at the time the mortgage is approved for insurance) to the effect that, except as authorized by the Secretary and the mortgagee, the property will be used as a group practice facility

or medical practice facility until the mortgage has been paid in full or the contract of insurance otherwise terminated.

(f) No mortgage shall be insured under this title unless the mortgagor and the mortgagee certify (1) that they will keep such records relating to the mortgage transaction and indebtedness, to the construction of the facility covered by the mortgage, and to the use of such facility as a group practice facility or medical practice facility as are prescribed by the Secretary at the time of such certification, (2) that they will make such reports as may from time to time be required by the Secretary pertaining to such matters, and (3) that the Secretary shall have access to and the right to examine and audit such records.

PREMIUMS

SEC. 1102. [12 U.S.C. 1749aaa-1] The Secretary shall fix premium charges for the insurance of mortgages under this title, but such charges shall not be more than 1 per centum per annum of the amount of the principal obligation of the mortgage outstanding at any time, without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments. In addition to the premium charge, the Secretary is authorized to charge and collect such amounts as he may deem reasonable for the analysis of a proposed project and the appraisal and inspection of the property and improvements. Where the principal obligation of any mortgage accepted for insurance under this title is paid in full prior to the maturity date, the Secretary is authorized to require the payment by the mortgagee of an adjusted premium charge. This charge shall be in such amount as the Secretary determines to be equitable, but not in excess of the aggregate amount of the premium charges that the mortgagee would otherwise have been required to pay if the mortgage had continued to be insured until the maturity date. Where such prepayment occurs, the Secretary is authorized to refund to the mortgagee for the account of the mortgagor all, or such portion as he shall determine to be equitable, of the current unearned premium charges theretofore paid. Premium charges fixed under this section shall be payable by the mortgagee either in cash, or in debentures which are the obligation of the General Insurance Fund at par plus accrued interest, at such times and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary.

PAYMENT OF INSURANCE BENEFITS

SEC. 1103. [12 U.S.C. 1749aaa-2] The mortgagee shall be entitled to receive the benefits of the insurance under this title in the manner provided in subsection (g) of section 207 with respect to mortgages insured under that section. For such purpose the provisions of subsections (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), and (n) of section 207 shall apply to mortgages insured under this title and all references in such subsection to section 207 shall be deemed to refer to this title.

REGULATIONS

SEC. 1104. [12 U.S.C. 1749aaa-3] The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this title,

after consulting with the Secretary of Health and Human Services with respect to any health or medical aspects of the program under this title which may be involved in such regulations.

ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 1105. [12 U.S.C. 1749aaa–4] (a) At the request of individuals or organizations operating or contemplating the operation of group practice facilities or medical practice facility (as defined in section 1106), the Secretary may provide or obtain technical assistance in the planning for and construction of such facilities.

(b) With a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication of existing staffs and facilities of the Federal Government, the Secretary is authorized to utilize available services and facilities of any agency of the Federal Government in carrying out the provisions of this title, and to pay for such services and facilities, either in advance or by way of reimbursement, in accordance with an agreement between the Secretary and the head of such agency.

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 1106. [12 U.S.C. 1749aaa–5] For the purposes of this title—

(1) The term “group practice facility” means a facility in a State for the provision of preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services to ambulatory patients (in which patient care is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State or, in the case of optometric care or treatment, is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice optometry in the State, or, in the case of dental diagnosis or treatment, is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice dentistry in the State, or, in the case of podiatric care or treatment, is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice podiatry in the State) and which is primarily for the provision of such health services by a medical or dental group.

(2) The term “medical practice facility” means an adequately equipped facility in which not more than four persons licensed to practice medicine in the State where the facility is located can provide, as may be appropriate, preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services, and which is situated in a rural area or small town, or in a low-income section of an urban area, in which there exists, as determined by the Secretary, a critical shortage of physicians. As used in this paragraph—

(A) the term “small town” means any town, village, or city having a population of not more than 10,000 inhabitants according to the most recent available data compiled by the Bureau of the Census; and

(B) the term “low-income section of an urban area” means a section of a larger urban area in which the median family income is substantially lower, as determined by the Secretary, than the median family income for the area as a whole.

(3) The term “medical or dental group” means a partnership or other association or group of persons licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy or surgery in the State, or of persons licensed to prac-

tice optometry in the State, or of persons licensed to practice dentistry in the State, or of persons licensed to practice podiatry in the State or of any combination of such persons, who, as their principal professional activity and as a group responsibility, engage or undertake to engage in the coordinated practice of their profession primarily in one or more group practice facilities, and who (in this connection) share common overhead expenses (if and to the extent such expenses are paid by members of the group), medical and other records, and substantial portions of the equipment and the professional, technical, and administrative staffs, and which partnership or association or group is composed of at least such professional personnel and make available at least such health services as may be provided in regulations prescribed under this title.

(4) The term “group practice unit or organization” means—

(A) a private nonprofit agency or organization undertaking to provide, directly or through arrangements with a medical or dental group, comprehensive medical care, osteopathic care, optometric care, dental care, or podiatric care, or any combination thereof, which may include hospitalization, to members or subscribers primarily on a group practice prepayments basis; or

(B) a private nonprofit agency or organization established for the purpose of improving the availability of medical, optometric, osteopathic, or dental or podiatric, care in the community or having some function or functions related to the provision of such care, which will, through lease or other arrangement, make the group practice facility with respect to which assistance has been requested under this title available to a medical or dental group for use by it.

(5) The term “nonprofit organization” means a corporation, association, foundation, trust, or other organization not part of the net earnings of which inures, or may lawfully inure, to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual except, in the case of an organization the purposes of which include the provision of personal health services to its members or subscribers or their dependents under a plan of such organization for the provision of such services to them (which plan may include the provision of other services or insurance benefits to them), through the provision of such health services (or such other services or insurance benefits) to such members or subscribers or dependents under such plan.

(6) The term “State” includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the District of Columbia.

(7) The term “mortgage” means a first mortgage on real estate in fee simple, or on the interest of either the lessor or lessee thereof (A) under a lease for not less than ninety-nine years which is renewable, or (B) under a lease having a period of not less than fifty years to run from the date the mortgage was executed. The term “first mortgage” means such classes of first liens as are commonly given to secure advances (including but not limited to advances during construction) on, or the unpaid purchase price of, real estate under the laws of the State in which the real estate is located, together with the credit instrument or instruments, if any, secured thereby, and any mortgage may be in the form of one or more trust

mortgages or mortgage indentures or deeds of trust, securing notes, bonds, or other credit instruments, and, by the same instrument or by a separate instrument, may create a security interest in initial equipment, whether or not attached to the realty.

(8) The term “mortgagee” means the original lender under a mortgage, and his or its successors and assigns, and includes the holders of credit instruments issued under a trust mortgage or deed of trust pursuant to which such holders act by and through a trustee named therein.

(9) The term “mortgagor” means the original borrower under a mortgage and his or its successors and assigns.

TITLE XII—NATIONAL INSURANCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ¹⁴⁵

PROGRAM AUTHORITY

SEC. 1201. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb] (a) The Director is authorized to establish and carry out the programs provided for in parts A, B, C, and D of this title.

(b) The powers of the Director under part B shall terminate on November 30, 1983, and part A shall terminate on September 30, 1985, and parts C and D shall terminate on September 30, 1995, except to the extent necessary—

(1) to continue reinsurance and direct insurance in accordance with the provisions of sections 1223(b) and 1231(c) until September 30, 1985, and September 30, 1996, respectively;

(2) to process, verify, and pay claims for reinsured losses and directly insured losses and perform other necessary functions in connection therewith; and

(3) to complete the liquidation and termination of the reinsurance and direct insurance programs

ADVISORY BOARD; MEETINGS, DUTIES, COMPENSATION, AND EXPENSES

SEC. 1202. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–1] (a)(1) There is established an Advisory Board (hereinafter called the “Board”) consisting of nineteen members appointed by the Director. Members of the Board shall be selected from among representatives of the general public, the insurance industry, State and local governments including insurance authorities, and the Federal Government. Of these members of the Board, not more than six shall be regular full-time employees of the Federal Government, and not less than four shall be representatives of the private insurance industry and not less than four shall be representatives of State insurance authorities.

(2) The Director shall designate a Chairman and a Vice Chairman of the Board.

(3) Each member shall serve for a term of two years, or until his successor has been appointed, except that no person, who is appointed while a full-time employee of a State or the Federal Gov-

¹⁴⁵Title XI of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Pub. L. 90–448, amended the National Housing Act by adding title XII. Section 1101 of Pub. L. 90–448 provides as follows:

“SEC. 1101. This title may be cited as the ‘Urban Property Protection and Reinsurance Act of 1968.’”.

ernment shall serve in such position after he ceases to be so employed, unless he is reappointed.

(4) Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that term.

(b) The Chairman shall preside at all meetings, and the Vice Chairman shall preside in the absence or disability of the Chairman. In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Director may appoint any member to act as Chairman pro tempore. The Board shall meet at such times and places as it or the Director may fix and determine, but shall hold at least four regularly scheduled meeting a year. Special meetings may be held at the call of the Chairman or any three members of the Board, or at the call of the Director.

(c) The Board shall review general policies and shall advise the Director with respect thereto, and perform such other functions as are specified in this title.

(d) The members of Board shall not, by reason of such membership, be deemed to be employees of the United States, and such members, except those who are regular full-time employees of the Government, shall receive for their services, as members, the per diem equivalent to the rate for grade GS-18 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code,¹⁴⁶ when engaged in the performance of their duties, and each member of the Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence as authorized by section 5703 of such title for persons in the Government service employed intermittently.

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 1203. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-2] (a) When used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires, the term—

(1) “affordable rate” means premium rate as the Director determines would permit the purchase of a specific type of insurance coverage by a reasonably prudent person in similar circumstances with due regard to the costs and benefits involved;

(2) “crime insurance” means insurance against losses resulting from robbery, burglary, larceny, and similar crimes, and may include broad form personal theft insurance, mercantile open stock insurance, mercantile robbery and mercantile safe burglary insurance, storekeeping burglary and robbery insurance, office burglary and robbery insurance, and may include business interruption insurance as the Director may designate; the term does not include automobile insurance or losses resulting from embezzlement;

(3) “directly insured losses” means losses on direct insurance claims and all direct expenses incurred in connection therewith, including but not limited to expenses for processing, verifying, and paying such losses;

¹⁴⁶Section 101(c)(1) of the Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act of 1990, Public Law 101-509 (§ 529), 104 Stat. 1427 provides in part that “any reference in a provision of law...to the rate of pay for grade GS-18 of the General Schedule, or to the maximum rate of pay under the General Schedule, shall be considered a reference to maximum rate payable under section 5376 of such title”.

(4) “environmental hazard” means any hazardous condition that might give rise to loss under an insurance contract, but which is beyond the control of the property owner;

(5) “essential property insurance” means insurance against direct loss to property as defined and limited in standard fire policies and extended coverage endorsement thereon, as approved by the State insurance authority, and insurance for such types, classes, and locations of property against the perils of vandalism, malicious mischief, burglary, or theft, as the Director by rule shall designate. Such insurance shall not include automobile insurance and shall not include insurance on such types of manufacturing risks as may be excluded by the State insurance authority;

(6) “inspection facility”, with respect to any State, means any rating bureau or other person designated by the State insurance authority to perform inspections under fair access to insurance requirements plan under part A;

(7) “insurer” includes any insurance company or group of companies under common ownership which is authorized to engage in the insurance business under the laws of any State;

(8) “pool” means any pool or association of insurance companies in any State which is formed, associated, or otherwise created for the purpose of making property insurance more readily available;

(9) “losses resulting from riots or civil disorders” means losses resulting from riots or civil disorders under policies for standard lines of property insurance for which reinsurance is offered under section 1221, as determined under regulations of the Director;

(10) “property owner”, with respect to any real, personal, or mixed real and personal property, means any person having an insurable interest in such property;

(11) “person” includes any individual or group of individuals, corporation, partnership, or association, or any other organized group of persons;

(12) “reinsured losses” means losses on reinsurance claims and all direct expenses incurred in connection therewith including, but not limited to, expenses for processing, verifying, and paying such losses;

(13) “standard line of property insurance” includes—

(A) fire and extended coverage;

(B) vandalism and malicious mischief;

(C) other allied lines of fire insurance;

(D) burglary and theft;

(E) those portions of multiple peril policies covering perils similar to those provided for in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D);

(F) inland marine;

(G) glass;

(H) boiler and machinery;

(I) ocean marine;

(J) aircraft physical damage; and

(K) such other lines generally offered to the public which include protection against damage from riot or civil commotion as the Director by regulation may designate;

(14) "State" means the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the territories and possessions, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands;

(15) "urban area" includes any municipality or other political subdivision of a State, subject to population or other limitations defined in rules and regulations of the Director and such additional areas as may be designated by the State insurance authority;

(16) "year" means a calendar year, fiscal year of a company, or such other period of twelve months as may be designated by the Director; and

(17) "Director" means the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(b) The Director is authorized to define, by rules and regulations, any technical or trade term, insofar as such definition is not inconsistent with the provisions of this title

PART A—STATEWIDE PLANS TO ASSURE FAIR ACCESS TO INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

FAIR PLANS

SEC. 1211. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-3] (a) Each insurer reinsured under this title shall cooperate with the State insurance authority in each State in which it is to acquire such reinsurance in establishing and carrying out statewide plans to assure fair access to insurance requirements (FAIR plans).

(b) Such plans must be approved by, and administered under the supervision of, the State insurance authority, or be authorized or required by State law, and shall be designed to make essential property insurance more readily available in, but not necessarily limited to, urban areas. Such plans may vary in detail from State to State because of local conditions, but all plans shall contain provisions that—

(1) no risk shall be written at surcharged rates or be denied insurance coverage for essential property insurance unless there has first been an inspection of the risk, without cost to the owner, by an inspection facility and a determination by the insurer, based on information in the inspection report and other sources, that the risk does not meet reasonable underwriting standards at the applicable premium rate;

(2) inspection under the plan may be requested by the property owner or his representative, the insurer, or the insurance agent, broker or other producer, and such requests need not be made in writing;

(3) the absence of a building owner or his representative during an inspection shall not preclude a tenant seeking insurance from obtaining an inspection under the plan;

(4) following the inspection, a copy of the inspection report shall be promptly sent by the inspection facility to the insurer or insurers, or to an all-industry placement facility referred to

under section 1212, as may be designated by the person requesting the inspection;

(5) after the inspection report is received by an insurer, it shall promptly determine if the risk meets reasonable underwriting standards at the applicable premium rate, and shall promptly return to the inspection facility the inspection report and provide an action report setting forth—

(A)(i) the amount of coverage it agrees to write; and if the insurer agrees to write the coverage with a surcharge (if such a surcharge is authorized by the State insurance authority), the improvements necessary before it will provide coverage at an unsurcharged premium rate; and

(ii) the amount of coverage it agrees to write if certain improvements specified in the action report are made; or

(B) the specific reasons it declines to write coverage;

(6) if the insurer declines the risk, or agrees to write the coverage sought on condition that the property will be improved, it shall also promptly send a copy of both the inspection and action reports to the property owner and the State insurance authority, and at the time the insurer sends such reports to the property owners, it shall also explain his right, under applicable State laws, to appeal the decision of the insurer to the State insurance authority, setting forth the procedures to be followed for such appeal;

(7) all policies written pursuant to the plan shall be promptly written after inspection or reinspection and shall be separately coded so that appropriate records may be compiled for purposes of performing loss prevention and other studies of the operation of the plan;

(8) the inspection facility shall submit to the State insurance authority and to the Director periodic reports setting forth information, by individual insurers, including the number of risks inspected under the plan, the number of risks accepted, the number of risks conditionally accepted and reinspections made, the number of risks declined, and such other information as the State insurance authority may request;

(9) notice will be given to any policyholder a reasonable time prior to the cancellation or nonrenewal of any risk eligible under the plan (except in case of nonpayment of premium or evidence of incendiarism), to allow ample time for an application for new coverage to be made and a new policy to be written under the plan, and the insurer shall, in writing, explain to the policyholder the procedures for obtaining an inspection under the plan in the notice of cancellation or nonrenewal; and

(10) a continuing public education program will be undertaken by the participating insurers, agents, and brokers to assure that the plan receives adequate public attention.

(c) At least one-third of the voting members of every board of directors, board of governors, advisory committee, and other governing or advisory board or committee for each plan described in subsection (b) shall be individuals who are not employed by, or otherwise affiliated with, insurers, insurance agents, brokers, producers, or other entities of the insurance industry.

ALL-INDUSTRY PLACEMENT FACILITY

SEC. 1212. **[12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-4]** Any plan under this part shall include an all-industry placement facility doing business with every insurer participating in the plan in the State, and shall provide that this facility shall perform certain functions including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) seeking, upon request by or on behalf of any property owner requesting an inspection under the plan, to distribute the risks involved equitably among the insurers with which it is doing business; and
- (2) seeking to place insurance up to the full insurable value of the risk to be insured with one or more insurers with which it is doing business, except to the extent that deductible, percentage participation clauses, and other underwriting devices are employed to meet special problems of insurability.

INDUSTRY COOPERATION

SEC. 1213. (a) **[12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-5]** Each insurer seeking reinsurance under this title shall file a statement with the State insurance authority in each State in which it is participating in a plan under this part, pledging its full participation and cooperation in carrying out the plan, and shall file a copy of such statement with the Director.

(b) No insurer acquiring reinsurance under this title shall direct any agent or broker or other producer not to solicit business through such a plan, nor shall any agent, broker, or other producer be penalized by such insurer in any way for submitting applications for insurance to an insurer under the plan.

PLAN EVALUATION

SEC. 1214. **[12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-6]** (a) In accordance with such rules and regulations as the Director may prescribe, each State insurance authority shall—

- (1) transmit to the Director any proposed or adopted plan, or amendments thereto; and
- (2) advise the Director, from time to time, concerning the operation of the plan, its effectiveness in providing essential property insurance, and the need to form a pool of insurers or adopt other programs to make essential property insurance more readily available in urban areas of the State.

(b) The Director may, after full consultation with the Board, by rules and regulations, modify the plan criteria set forth under this part, if he finds, on the basis of experience, that such action is necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this title. The Director may also, with respect to any State, waive compliance with one or more of the plan criteria, upon certification by the State insurance authority that compliance is unnecessary or inadvisable under local conditions or State law.

OFFICE OF REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE

SEC. 1215. **[12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-6a]** The Director, through an Office of Review and Compliance under the Federal Insurance Ad-

ministrator, shall periodically review each plan under this part and the methods and practices by which such plan is being actually carried out in the areas and communities where it is intended to operate, in order to assure that such plan is effectively making essential property insurance readily available in such areas and communities and is otherwise carrying out the purposes of this title, and in order to identify any aspects of the operation or administration of such plan which may require revision, modification, or other action to carry out such purposes.

PART B—REINSURANCE COVERAGE

REINSURANCE OF LOSSES FROM RIOTS OR CIVIL DISORDERS

SEC. 1221. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–7] (a)(1) The Director is authorized to offer to any insurer or pool, subject to the conditions set forth in section 1223, reinsurance against property losses resulting from riots or civil disorders in any one or more States.

(2) Reinsurance shall be offered to any such insurer or pool only on all standard lines of property insurance enumerated under subparagraphs (A) through (E) of section 1203(a)(13) together, and any insurer or pool purchasing such reinsurance shall also be eligible, to purchase reinsurance on any one or more standard lines of property insurance enumerated under subparagraphs (F) through (J) of section 1203(a)(13) or which may be designated by regulation pursuant to subparagraph (K) of that section.

(b) Reinsurance coverage under this section may be provided immediately following the enactment of this title to any insurer or pool in any State on a temporary basis, and on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon, and coverage under such terms and conditions may be bound with respect to any such insurer or pool by means of a written binder which shall remain in force not more than ninety days and shall expire at the earlier of either—

(1) the termination of such ninety-day period, or

(2) the effective date of any governing contract, agreement, treaty, or other arrangement entered into between the insurer, or pool and the Director under section 1222 for the purpose of providing reinsurance coverage against losses resulting from riots or civil disorders.

(c) No reinsurance shall be offered to any insurer or pool in a State after the expiration of the written binder entered into under subsection (b), unless there is in effect in such State a plan as set forth under part A and the insurer or pool is participating in such plan, and unless, in the case of an insurer in a State where a pool has been established pursuant to State law, the insurer is participating in such a pool.

REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS AND PREMIUMS

SEC. 1222. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–8] (a) During the first year following the date of the enactment of this title, the Director is authorized to enter into any contract, agreement, treaty, or other arrangement with any insurer, or pool for reinsurance coverage, in consideration of payment of such premiums, fees, or other charges by insurers or pools which the Director, after full consultation with

the Board, deems to be adequate to obtain aggregate reinsurance premiums for deposit in the National Insurance Development Fund established under section 1243 in excess of the estimated amount of insured riot losses during the calendar year 1967, on the assumption that a substantial proportion of the property insurance written will be reinsured under this title, and thereafter the Director may increase or decrease such premiums for reinsurance if it is found after full consultation with the Board and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners that such action is necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this title.

(b) Reinsurance offered under this title shall reimburse an insurer or pool for its total proved and approved claims for covered losses resulting from riots or civil disorders during the term of the reinsurance contract, agreement, treaty, or other arrangement, over and above the amount of the insurer's or pool's retention of such losses as provided in such reinsurance contract, agreement, treaty, or other arrangement entered into under this section.

(c) Such contracts, agreements, treaties, or other arrangements may be made without regard to section 1341(a) of title 31, United States Code, and shall include any terms and conditions which the Director deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this title. The premium rates, terms, and conditions of such contracts with insurers or pools, throughout the country, in any one year shall be uniform.

(d) Any contract, agreement, treaty, or other arrangement for reinsurance under this section shall be for a term expiring on April 30, 1969, and on April 30 each year thereafter, except that such term shall expire on September 30, beginning in either calendar year 1977 or 1978, as determined by the Director

CONDITIONS OF REINSURANCE

SEC. 1223. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-9] (a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b), reinsurance shall not be offered by the Director in a State or be applicable to insurance policies written in that State by an insurer—

(1) in any State which has not, after the close of the second full regular session of the appropriate State legislative body following the date of the enactment of this title, adopted appropriate legislation, retroactive to the date of the enactment of this title, under which the State, its political subdivisions, or a governmental corporation or fund established pursuant to State law, will reimburse the Director for any reinsured losses in that State in any reinsurance contract year, in an amount up to 5 per centum of the aggregate property insurance premiums earned in that State during the calendar year immediately preceding the end of the reinsurance contract year on those lines of insurance reinsured by the Director in that State during the contract year, to the extent that reinsured losses paid by the Director for such year exceed the total of (A) reinsurance premiums earned in that State during that reinsurance contract year plus (B) the excess of (i) the total premiums earned by the Director for reinsurance in that State during a preceding period measured from the end of the most

recent reinsurance contract year with respect to which the Director was reimbursed for losses under this title over (ii) any amounts paid by the Director for reinsured losses that were incurred during such period;

(2) after thirty days following notification to the insurer that the Director finds (after consultation with the State insurance authority) that there has not been adopted by the State, or the property insurance industry in that State, a suitable program or programs, in addition to plans under part A, to make essential property insurance available without regard to environmental hazards, and that such action is necessary to carry out the purposes of this title; except that this paragraph shall not become effective until two years after the date of the enactment of this title, or at such earlier date as the Director, after consultation with the State insurance authority, may determine;

(3) after thirty days following notification to the insurer that the Director, or the State insurance authority, finds that such insurer is not fully participating—

(A) in the plan in the State;

(B) where it exists, in a pool; and

(C) where it exists, in any other program found by the Director to aid in making essential property insurance more readily available in the State:

Provided, That the Director shall not make any such finding with respect to any insurer unless (i) prior to making such finding the Director has requested and considered the views of the State insurance authority as to whether such finding should be made, or (ii) the Director has made such a request in writing to the State insurance authority and such authority has failed to respond thereto within a reasonable period of time after receiving such request;

(4) following a merger, acquisition, consolidation or reorganization involving one or more insurers having lines of property insurance in the State reinsured under this title and one or more insurers with or without such reinsurance, unless the surviving company—

(A) meets the criteria of eligibility for reinsurance, other than as provided under section 1222(d); and

(B) within ten days pays any reinsurance premiums due; or

(5) upon receipt from the insurer or pool that it desires to cancel its reinsurance agreement with the Director in the State.

(b) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, reinsurance may be continued for the term of the policies written prior to the date of termination or nonrenewal of reinsurance under this section, for as long as the insurer pays reinsurance premiums annually in such amounts as are determined under section 1222, based on the annual premiums earned on such reinsured policies, and for the purpose of this subsection the renewal, extension, modification, or other change in a policy, for which any additional premium is charged, shall be deemed to be a policy written on the date such change was made.

RECOVERY OF PREMIUMS; STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

SEC. 1224. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–10] (a) The Director, in a suit brought in the appropriate United States district court, shall be entitled to recover from any insurer the amount of any unpaid premiums lawfully payable by any such insurer to the Director.

(b) No action or proceeding shall be brought for the recovery of any premium due to the Director for reinsurance, or for the recovery of any premium paid to the Director in excess of the amount due to him, unless such action or proceeding shall have been brought within five years after the right accrued for which the claim is made, except that, where the insurer has made or filed with the Director a false or fraudulent annual statement, or other document with the intent to evade, in whole or in part, the payment of premiums, the claim shall not be deemed to have accrued until its discovery by the Director.

PART C—FEDERAL INSURANCE AGAINST BURGLARY AND THEFT

REVIEW AND PROGRAM AUTHORITY

SEC. 1231. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–10a] (a) The Director shall conduct a continuing review of the market availability situation in each of the several States to determine whether crime insurance is available at affordable rates either through the normal insurance market or through a suitable program adopted under State law.

(b) Upon determining pursuant to subsection (a) that, at any time on or after August 1, 1971, a critical market unavailability situation for crime insurance then exists in any State and has not been met through appropriate State action, the Director is authorized to make crime insurance available at affordable rates within such State through the facilities of the Federal Government. Such insurance shall be provided upon such terms and conditions, and subject to such deductibles and other restrictions and limitations, as the Director deems appropriate, but no such insurance shall be made available to a property which the Director determines to be uninsurable or to a property with respect to which reasonable protective measures to prevent loss, consistent with standards established by the Director, have not been adopted.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, direct insurance may be continued for the term of the policies written prior to the date of termination of the Director's direct insurance authority under this part, for as long as the insured pays the required direct insurance premiums; except that direct insurance under this part for any risk shall be terminated after notice whenever the Director determines that the standard lines of crime insurance otherwise have become available to such property at affordable rates.

USE OF EXISTING FACILITIES AND SERVICES

SEC. 1232. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–10b] In carrying out his responsibilities under this part, the Director may utilize—

(1) insurance companies and other insurers, insurance agents and brokers, and insurance adjustment organizations, as fiscal agents of the United States;

(2) such other officers and employees of any executive agency (as defined in section 105 of title 5 of the United States Code) as the Director and the head of any such agency may from time to time agree upon, on a reimbursement or other basis, or

(3) both the alternatives specified in paragraphs (1) and (2), or any combination thereof.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AFFORDABLE RATES

SEC. 1233. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–10c] In estimating the affordable rates for the various crime insurance coverages offered from time to time under this part, the Director shall consult with appropriate State insurance authorities and other knowledgeable persons and is authorized to take into consideration the nature and degree of the risks involved, the protective devices employed, the extent of anticipated losses, the prevailing rates for similar coverages in adjacent or comparable areas and territories, the economic importance of the various individual coverages and the types of property involved, and the relative abilities of the particular classes and types of insureds to pay the full estimated costs of such coverages. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit or require either the adoption of uniform national rates or the periodic modification of currently estimated affordable rates for any particular line or subline of coverage, class, State, territory, or risk on the basis of additional information or actual loss experience.¹⁴⁷

REPORTS ON OPERATIONS

SEC. 1234. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–10d] The Director shall report to the Congress not less than annually on the program authorized by this title. The reports under this section shall include—

(1) full and complete information on the operations and activities of the Director under this part, together with such recommendations with respect thereto as the Director may deem appropriate; and

(2) a detailed justification of any increase in premium rates charged for crime insurance made during the period for which the report is submitted.

PART D—PROVISIONS OF GENERAL APPLICABILITY

CLAIMS AND JUDICIAL REVIEW

SEC. 1241. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–11] (a) All reinsurance or direct insurance claims for losses under this title shall be submitted by insurers of property owners in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be established by the Director.

(b)(1) Upon disallowance of any claim under color of reinsurance or direct insurance made available under this title, or upon

¹⁴⁷ Section 542(c) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, Pub. L. 100–242, approved February 5, 1988, provides as follows:

“(c) LIMITATION ON PREMIUMS.—The premium rates charged for crime insurance under any program established pursuant to part C of title XII of the National Housing Act may not be increased during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on September 30, 1995, by more than a prorated annual rate of 15 percent.”

refusal of the claimant may institute an action against the Director on such claim in the United States district court for the district in which a major portion (in terms of value) of the claim arose.

(2) Any such action must be begun within one year after the date upon which the claimant received written notice of disallowance or partial disallowance of the claim, and exclusive jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon United States district courts to hear and determine such actions without regard to the amount of controversy.

FISCAL INTERMEDIARIES AND SERVICING AGENTS

SEC. 1242. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–12] (a) In order to provide for maximum efficiency in the administration of the reinsurance and direct insurance programs under this title, and in order to facilitate the expeditious payment of any funds under such program, the Director may enter into contracts with any insurer, pool, or other person, for the purpose of providing for the performance of any or all of the following functions:

(1) estimating or determining any amounts of payments for reinsurance or direct insurance claims;

(2) receiving and disbursing and accounting for funds in making payments for reinsurance or direct insurance claims;

(3) auditing the records of any insurer, pool, or other person to the extent necessary to assure that proper payments are made;

(4) establishing the basis of liability of reinsurance or direct insurance payments, including the total amount of proved and approved claims which may be payable to any insurer or property owner, and the total amount of premiums earned by any insurer in the respective States for reinsured or directly insured lines of property insurance; and

(5) otherwise assisting in any manner provided in the contract to further the purposes of this title.

(b)(1) Any such contract may require the insurer, pool, or other person, or any of its officers or employees certifying payments or disbursing funds pursuant to the contract, or otherwise participating in carrying out the contract, to give surety bonds to the United States in such amounts as the Director may deem appropriate.

(2) In the absence of gross negligence or intent to defraud the United States—

(A) no individual designated pursuant to a contract under this section to certify payments shall be liable with respect to any payment certified by him under this section; and

(B) no officer of the United States disbursing funds shall be liable with respect to any otherwise proper payment by him if it was based on a voucher signed by an individual designated pursuant to a contract under this section to certify payments.

NATIONAL INSURANCE DEVELOPMENT FUND

SEC. 1243. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–13] (a) To carry out the programs authorized under this title, the Director is authorized to establish a National Insurance Development Fund (hereinafter called

the “fund”) which shall be available, without fiscal year limitations—

(1) to make such payments as may, from time to time, be required under reinsurance and direct insurance contracts under this title;

(2) to pay such administrative expenses as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this title; and

(3) to repay to the Secretary of the Treasury such sums, including interest thereon, as may be borrowed from him for purposes of such programs under section 520(b).

(b) The fund shall be credited with—

(1) reinsurance and direct insurance premiums, fees, and other charges which may be paid or collected in connection with reinsurance and direct insurance provided under parts B and C;

(2) interest which may be earned on investments of the fund;

(3) such amounts as may be advanced to the fund from appropriations in order to maintain the fund in an operative condition adequate to meet its liabilities;

(4) such amounts which are hereby authorized to be appropriated as may be necessary from time to time to reimburse the fund for losses and expenses (including administrative expenses) incurred in carrying out the program authorized under part C;

(5) receipts from any other source which may, from time to time, be credited to the fund; and

(6) funds borrowed by the Director under section 520(b) and deposited in the fund.

(c) If, after any amounts which may have been advanced to the fund from appropriations have been credited to the appropriation from which advanced (including interest thereon at the rate prescribed under section 520(b)), the Director determines that the moneys of the fund are in excess of current needs, he may request the investment of such amounts as he deems advisable by the Secretary of the Treasury in obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States.

(d) An annual business-type budget for the fund shall be prepared, transmitted to the Congress, considered, and enacted in the manner prescribed by sections 9103 and 9104 of title 31, United States Code, for wholly owned Government corporations.

RECORDS, ANNUAL STATEMENT, AND AUDITS

SEC. 1244. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–14] (a) Any insurer, pool, or property owner acquiring reinsurance or direct insurance under this title shall furnish the Director with such summaries and analyses of information in its records as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this title, in such form as the Director, in cooperation with the State insurance authority, shall, by rules and regulations prescribe. The Director shall make use of State insurance authority examination reports and facilities to the maximum extent feasible.

(b) Any insurer or pool acquiring reinsurance under this title shall file with the Director a true and correct copy of any annual statement, or amendment thereof, filed with the State insurance authority of its domiciliary State, at the time it files such statement or amendment with such State insurance authority.

(c) Any insurer or other person executing any contract, agreement, or other appropriate arrangement with the Director under section 1222 or section 1242 shall keep reasonable records which fully disclose the total costs of the programs undertaken or the services being rendered, and such other records as will facilitate an effective audit of liability for reinsurance or direct insurance payments by the Director.

(d) The Director and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access for the purpose of investigation, audit, and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records of any insurer or other person that are pertinent to the costs of any program undertaken for, or services rendered to, the Director. Such audits shall be conducted to the maximum extent feasible in cooperation with the State insurance authorities and through the use of their examining facilities.

STUDY OF REINSURANCE AND OTHER PROGRAMS

SEC. 1245. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–15] (a) The Director is authorized and directed to conduct a study of reinsurance and other means to help assure—

(1) an adequate market for burglary and theft and other property insurance in urban areas; and

(2) adequate availability of surety bonds for construction contractors in urban areas.

(b) The Director shall submit the results of this study, together with appropriate recommendations, to the President and Congress no later than June 30, 1970.

OTHER STUDIES

SEC. 1246. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–16] (a) The Director is authorized to undertake such studies as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this title including, but not limited to inquiries concerning—

(1) the operation of plans under part A;

(2) the extent to which essential property insurance is unavailable in urban areas;

(3) the market for private reinsurance; and

(4) loss prevention methods and procedures, insurance marketing methods; and underwriting techniques.

(b) To such extent and under such circumstances as may be practicable and feasible, the Director shall conduct any study authorized under this section in cooperation with State insurance authorities and the private insurance industry.

GENERAL POWERS

SEC. 1247. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–17] In the performance of, and with respect to, the functions, powers, and duties vested in him by

this title, the Director shall (in addition to any authority otherwise vested in him) have the functions, powers, and duties (including the authority to issue rules and regulations) of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development set forth in section 402, except subsections (c)(2), (d), and (f), of the Housing Act of 1950. Any rules or regulations of the Director shall only be issued after full consultation with the Board and after notice and hearing, if granted, as required by subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of title 5, United States Code.

SERVICES AND FACILITIES OF OTHER AGENCIES—UTILIZATION OF
PERSONNEL, SERVICES, FACILITIES, AND INFORMATION

SEC. 1248. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–18] The Director may, with the consent of the agency concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the officers, employees, services, facilities, and information of any agency of the Federal Government, except that any such agency having custody of any data relating to any of the matters within the jurisdiction of the Director shall, to the extent permitted by law, upon request of the Director, make such data available to the Director.

ADVANCE PAYMENTS

SEC. 1249. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–19] Any payments which are made under the authority of this title may be made, after necessary adjustments on account of previously made underpayments or overpayments in advance or by way of reimbursement. Payments may be made in such installments and on such conditions as the Director may determine.

TAXATION

SEC. 1250. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–20] (a) The National Insurance Development Fund, including its reserves, surplus, and income, shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States, or by any State, or any subdivision thereof, except that any real property acquired by the Director as a result of reinsurance shall be subject to taxation by any State or political subdivision thereof, to the same extent, according to its value, as other real property is taxed.

(b) Any measures undertaken by any State to meet or to fund its obligations under section 1223(a)(1) shall not be the subject of any retaliatory or fiscal imposition by any other State.

APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 1251. [12 U.S.C. 1749bbb–21] There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this title.