

tain such capital through a loan under section 3018 of this title or from other sources; or

(B) the membership of the applicant is, or will consist, substantially of low-income persons, as defined by the Board of Directors, or the applicant proposes to undertake to provide specialized goods, services, or facilities to serve their needs; and

(2) the applicant cannot obtain sufficient funds through a loan under section 3018 of this title or otherwise, and the applicant presents a plan which the Office determines will permit the replacement of a capital investment advance out of member equities within a period not to exceed thirty years.

(b) Interest supplement advances; criteria; amount

The Office may make advances to pay all or part of the interest payable to the Bank or any other lender by an eligible cooperative applicant which the Office determines cannot pay a market rate of interest because it sells goods or services to, or provides facilities for the use of, persons of low income: *Provided*, That such advances will not exceed an amount equal to 4 per centum of the principal amount of the indebtedness of such applicant to the Bank or such other lender for any year in which the net income of the cooperative is insufficient to meet scheduled interest payments.

(c) Interest rate applicable to advances

Capital investment advances made by the Office pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and interest supplement advances made by the Office pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall bear interest at a rate determined by the Board of Directors of the Bank, and the Board of Directors may authorize an interest rate applicable to such advances lower than the rate applicable to loans by the Bank pursuant to section 3018 of this title.

(Pub. L. 95-351, title II, §203, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 512; Pub. L. 97-35, title III, §396(g), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 440.)

AMENDMENTS

1981—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 97-35 struck out references to the Account wherever appearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-35 effective on the day after the Final Government Equity Redemption Date (Dec. 31, 1981), see section 396(i) of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as a note under section 3011 of this title.

§ 3044. Services and information for organization, financing, and management of cooperatives; availability; agreements for development and dissemination; funding

The Office shall make available information and services concerning the organization, financing, and management of cooperatives to best achieve the objectives of this chapter and to best provide the means through which various types of goods, services, and facilities can be made available to members and patrons. The Office may enter into agreements with other agencies of Federal, State, and local governments, colleges and universities, foundations, or other organizations for the development and dissemi-

nation of such information, and services described in this subchapter. The Office may make or accept grants or transfer of funds for such purposes.

(Pub. L. 95-351, title II, §204, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 512.)

§ 3045. Investigations and surveys respecting new services, etc., by cooperative not-for-profit organizations

The Office may undertake investigations of new types of services which can more effectively be provided through cooperative not-for-profit organizations and make surveys of areas where the increased use of such organizations will contribute to the economic well-being of the community.

(Pub. L. 95-351, title II, §205, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 512.)

§ 3046. Financial analysis and market surveys at request of eligible cooperative

The Office may, at the request of any eligible cooperative, provide a financial analysis of the applicant's capital structure and needs and its cost of operations, survey the market for the goods or services the cooperative makes or desires to make available to its members or patrons or the users of its facilities.

(Pub. L. 95-351, title II, §206, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 513.)

§ 3047. Programs for training directors and staff of eligible cooperatives, and public education; development and availability; scope and implementation

The Office shall develop and make available, alone or in concert with other organizations, a program for training directors and staff of eligible cooperatives to improve their understanding of their responsibilities; the problems of and solutions for effective and efficient operation of their organizations or of cooperatives in general; and may by any means it deems appropriate, conduct membership studies, provide membership education programs, and programs for informing consumers and the general public of the advantages of cooperative action. Management supervision, review, and consultations shall be available from the Office to any eligible cooperative.

(Pub. L. 95-351, title II, §207, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 513.)

§ 3048. Cooperation with Federal agencies offering programs for consumer cooperatives in disseminating information

The Office shall work closely with all United States Government agencies offering programs for which consumer cooperatives may be eligible to assure that information concerning all such programs is made available to eligible cooperatives.

(Pub. L. 95-351, title II, §208, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 513.)