

**(c) Purchase of stock in other corporations**

With the consent of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to purchase and hold stock or other certificates of ownership in any other corporation organized under the provisions of this subchapter, or under the laws of any foreign country or a colony or dependency thereof, or under the laws of any State, dependency, or insular possession of the United States but not engaged in the general business of buying or selling goods, wares, merchandise, or commodities in the United States, and not transacting any business in the United States except such as in the judgment of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System may be incidental to its international or foreign business: *Provided, however*, That, except with the approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, no corporation organized under this subchapter shall invest in any one corporation an amount in excess of 10 per centum of its own capital and surplus, except in a corporation engaged in the business of banking, when 15 per centum of its capital and surplus may be so invested: *Provided further*, That no corporation organized under this subchapter shall purchase, own, or hold stock or certificates of ownership in any other corporation organized under this subchapter or under the laws of any State which is in substantial competition therewith, or which holds stock or certificates of ownership in corporations which are in substantial competition with the purchasing corporation.

Nothing contained herein shall prevent corporations organized under this subchapter from purchasing and holding stock in any corporation where such purchase shall be necessary to prevent a loss upon a debt previously contracted in good faith; and stock so purchased or acquired in corporations organized under this subchapter shall, within six months from such purchase, be sold or disposed of at public or private sale, unless the time to so dispose of same is extended by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

(Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, § 25A (pars.), formerly § 25(a), as added Dec. 24, 1919, ch. 18, 41 Stat. 378; amended Aug. 23, 1935, ch. 614, title II, § 203(a), 49 Stat. 704; Pub. L. 95-369, § 3(d), (e), Sept. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 609; renumbered § 25A, Pub. L. 102-242, title I, § 142(e)(2), Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2281.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Each corporation organized as provided in sections 611 to 614 of this title, referred to in first par., was in the original "Each corporation so organized".

This act, referred to in subsec. (a), is act Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, 38 Stat. 251, as amended, known as the Federal Reserve Act, which is classified principally to chapter 3 (§ 221 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see References in Text note set out under section 226 of this title and Tables.

This subchapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c), was in the original "this section", meaning section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which is classified to this subchapter (§ 611 et seq.).

Organized under this subchapter, referred to in subsec. (c), was in the original "organized hereunder", meaning under section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which comprises this subchapter.

## CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of pars. 6 and 7 (undesignated) of section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of section 25A of this Act, see Codification note set out under section 611 of this title.

## AMENDMENTS

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-369, § 3(d), struck out " but in no event having liabilities outstanding thereon at any one time exceeding ten times its capital stock and surplus" after "under such general conditions as to security and such limitations as the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System may prescribe".

Pub. L. 95-369, § 3(e), which directed substituting "for member banks of the Federal Reserve System" for " but in no event less than ten per centum of its deposits," in the third sentence, was executed by making the substitution for " but in no event less than 10 per centum of its deposits" to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

## CHANGE OF NAME

Section 203(a) of act Aug. 23, 1935, changed name of Federal Reserve Board to Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

**§ 616. Place of carrying on business; when business may be begun**

No corporation organized under this subchapter shall carry on any part of its business in the United States except such as, in the judgment of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, shall be incidental to its international or foreign business: *And provided further*, That except such as is incidental and preliminary to its organization, no such corporation shall exercise any of the powers conferred by this subchapter until it has been duly authorized by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to commence business as a corporation organized under the provisions of this subchapter.

(Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, § 25A (par.), formerly § 25(a), as added Dec. 24, 1919, ch. 18, 41 Stat. 378; amended Aug. 23, 1935, ch. 614, title II, § 203(a), 49 Stat. 704; renumbered § 25A, Pub. L. 102-242, title I, § 142(e)(2), Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2281.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this section", meaning section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which is classified to this subchapter (§ 611 et seq.).

## CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of par. 8 (undesignated) of section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of section 25A of this Act, see Codification note set out under section 611 of this title.

## CHANGE OF NAME

Section 203(a) of act Aug. 23, 1935, changed name of Federal Reserve Board to Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

**§ 617. Engaging in commerce or trade in commodities; price fixing; forfeiture of charter; acts forbidden to directors, officers, agents, or employees**

No corporation organized under this subchapter shall engage in commerce or trade in

commodities except as specifically provided in this subchapter, nor shall it, either directly or indirectly, control or fix or attempt to control or fix the price of any such commodities. The charter of any corporation violating this provision shall be subject to forfeiture in the manner provided in this subchapter. It shall be unlawful for any director, officer, agent, or employee of any such corporation to use or to conspire to use the credit, the funds, or the power of the corporation to fix or control the price of any such commodities, and any such person violating this provision shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not exceeding \$5,000 or imprisonment not less than one year and not exceeding five years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

(Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, §25A (par.), formerly §25(a), as added Dec. 24, 1919, ch. 18, 41 Stat. 378; renumbered §25A, Pub. L. 102-242, title I, §142(e)(2), Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2281.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this section", meaning section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which is classified to this subchapter (§611 et seq.).

#### CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of par. 9 (undesignated) of section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of section 25A of this Act, see Codification note set out under section 611 of this title.

### § 618. Capital stock; amount; when paid in

No corporation shall be organized under the provisions of this subchapter with a capital stock of less than \$2,000,000, one-quarter of which must be paid in before the corporation may be authorized to begin business, and the remainder of the capital stock of such corporation shall be paid in installments of at least 10 per centum on the whole amount to which the corporation shall be limited as frequently as one installment at the end of each succeeding two months from the time of the commencement of its business operations until the whole of the capital stock shall be paid in: *Provided, however*, That whenever \$2,000,000 of the capital stock of any corporation is paid in the remainder of the corporation's capital stock or any unpaid part of such remainder may, with the consent of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and subject to such regulations and conditions as it may prescribe, be paid in upon call from the board of directors; such unpaid subscriptions, however, to be included in the maximum of 10 per centum of the national bank's capital and surplus which a national bank is permitted under the provisions of this Act to hold in stock of corporations engaged in business of the kind described in this subchapter and subchapter I of this chapter. The capital stock of any such corporation may be increased at any time, with the approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, by a vote of two-thirds of its shareholders or by unanimous consent in writing of the shareholders without a meeting and without a formal vote, but any such increase of capital shall be fully paid in within ninety days after such approval;

and may be reduced in like manner, provided that in no event shall it be less than \$2,000,000. No corporation, except as herein provided, shall during the time it shall continue its operations, withdraw or permit to be withdrawn, either in the form of dividends or otherwise, any portion of its capital. Any national bank may invest in the stock of any corporation organized under this subchapter. The aggregate amount of stock held by any national bank in all corporations engaged in business of the kind described in this subchapter or subchapter I of this chapter shall not exceed an amount equal to 10 percent of the capital and surplus of such bank unless the Board determines that the investment of an additional amount by the bank would not be unsafe or unsound and, in any case, shall not exceed an amount equal to 20 percent of the capital and surplus of such bank.

(Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, §25A (par.), formerly §25(a), as added Dec. 24, 1919, ch. 18, 41 Stat. 378; amended June 14, 1921, ch. 22, 42 Stat. 28; Aug. 23, 1935, ch. 614, title II, §203(a), 49 Stat. 704; Pub. L. 95-369, §3(d), Sept. 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 609; renumbered §25A, Pub. L. 102-242, title I, §142(e)(2), Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2281; Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title II, §2307, Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-426.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this section", meaning section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which is classified to this subchapter (§611 et seq.).

This Act, referred to in text, is act Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, 38 Stat. 251, as amended, known as the Federal Reserve Act, which is classified principally to chapter 3 (§221 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see References in Text note set out under section 226 of this title and Tables.

Subchapter I of this chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "section 25 of the Federal Reserve Act as amended" and "section 25", which is classified to subchapter I (§601 et seq.) of this chapter.

#### CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of par. 10 (undesignated) of section 25A of act Dec. 23, 1913, which comprises this subchapter. For complete classification of section 25A of this Act, see Codification note set out under section 611 of this title.

#### AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-208 inserted last sentence and struck out former last sentence which read as follows: "Any national banking association may invest in the stock of any corporation organized under the provisions of said sections, but the aggregate amount of stock held in all corporations engaged in business of the kind described in this subchapter and subchapter I of this chapter shall not exceed 10 per centum of the subscribing bank's capital and surplus."

1978—Pub. L. 95-369 struck out proviso limiting liabilities outstanding at any one time upon debentures, bonds and promissory notes to not in excess of ten times its paid in capital and surplus, after "stock of corporations engaged in business of the kind described in this subchapter and subchapter I of this chapter".

1921—Act June 14, 1921, amended section generally, inserting two provisos.

#### CHANGE OF NAME

Section 203(a) of act Aug. 23, 1935, changed name of Federal Reserve Board to Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.