fiscal agents for the Secretary in the general exercise of his powers under this chapter, and the Secretary may reimburse any such bank for its services in such manner as may be agreed upon.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, title I, §10, as added Pub. L. 93–383, title II, §201(a), Aug. 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 666; amended Pub. L. 98–479, title II, §203(b)(2), Oct. 17, 1984, 98 Stat. 2229; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 100–358, §5, June 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 681; Pub. L. 104–316, title I, §122(k), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3837; Pub. L. 108–271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814.)

### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 10 of act Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, 50 Stat. 891, as amended, authorized annual contributions in assistance of low rentals for housing projects and was classified to section 1410 of this title, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 93–383. Similar provisions are contained in section 1437c of this title.

### AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 108–271 substituted "Government Accountability Office" for "General Accounting Office".

1996—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 104–316 substituted "maintain an integral set of accounts which may be audited by the General Accounting Office as provided by chapter 91 of title 31." for "maintain an integral set of accounts which shall be audited annually by the General Accounting Office in accordance with the principles and procedures applicable to commercial transactions as provided by chapter 91 of title 31, and no other audit shall be required."

other audit shall be required."

1984—Subsec. (a)(1), (2). Pub. L. 98–479 substituted "chapter 91 of title 31" for "the Government Corporations Control Act, as amended".

## § 1437i. Obligations of public housing agencies; contestability; full faith and credit of United States pledged as security; tax exemption

(a) Obligations issued by a public housing agency in connection with low-income housing projects which (1) are secured (A) by a pledge of a loan under any agreement between such public housing agency and the Secretary, or (B) by a pledge of annual contributions under an annual contributions contract between such public housing agency and the Secretary, or (C) by a pledge of both annual contributions under an annual contributions contract and a loan under an agreement between such public housing agency and the Secretary, and (2) bear, or are accompanied by, a certificate of the Secretary that such obligations are so secured, shall be incontestable in the hands of a bearer and the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the payment of all amounts agreed to be paid by the Secretary as security for such obligations.

(b) Except as provided in section 1437c(g) of this title, obligations, including interest thereon, issued by public housing agencies in connection with low-income housing projects shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States whether paid by such agencies or by the Secretary. The income derived by such agencies from such projects shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, title I, §11, as added Pub. L. 93–383, title II, §201(a), Aug. 22, 1974, 88 Stat.

667; amended Pub. L. 97–35, title III,  $\S322(c)$ , Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 402; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 100–358,  $\S5$ , June 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 681; Pub. L. 101–625, title V,  $\S572(2)$ , Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4236.)

### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 11 of act Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, 50 Stat. 893, as amended, authorized capital grants to public housing agencies in assistance of low rentals and was classified to section 1411 of this title, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 93-383.

#### AMENDMENTS

1990—Pub. L. 101-625 substituted "low-income housing" for "lower income housing" wherever appearing. 1981—Pub. L. 97-35 substituted reference to lower income for reference to low-income wherever appearing.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97–35 effective Oct. 1, 1981, see section 371 of Pub. L. 97–35, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3701 of Title 12, Banks and Banking.

# § 1437j. Labor standards and community service requirement

# (a) Payment of wages prevailing in locality

Any contract for loans, contributions, sale, or lease pursuant to this chapter shall contain a provision requiring that not less than the wages prevailing in the locality, as determined or adopted (subsequent to a determination under applicable State or local law) by the Secretary, shall be paid to all architects, technical engineers, draftsmen, and technicians employed in the development, and all maintenance laborers and mechanics employed in the operation, of the low-income housing project involved; and shall also contain a provision that not less than the wages prevailing in the locality, as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to sections 3141-3144, 3146, and 3147 of title 40, shall be paid to all laborers and mechanics employed in the development of the project involved (including a project with nine or more units assisted under section 1437f of this title, where the public housing agency or the Secretary and the builder or sponsor enter into agreement for such use before construction or rehabilitation is commenced), and the Secretary shall require certification as to compliance with the provisions of this section prior to making any payment under such contract.

# (b) Exception for volunteers

Subsection (a) of this section and the provisions relating to wages (pursuant to subsection (a) of this section) in any contract for loans, annual contributions, sale, or lease pursuant to this chapter, shall not apply to any individual that—

- (1) performs services for which the individual volunteered;
- (2)(A) does not receive compensation for such services; or
- (B) is paid expenses, reasonable benefits, or a nominal fee for such services; and
- (3) is not otherwise employed at any time in the construction work.

## (c) Community service requirement

# (1) In general

Except as provided in paragraph (2) and notwithstanding any other provision of law, each