

notes or other obligations guaranteed under this section;

(B) pledge any grant for which the issuer may become eligible under this subchapter; and

(C) furnish, at the discretion of the Secretary, such other security as may be considered appropriate by the Secretary in making the guarantees.

**(2) Security**

To assist in ensuring the repayment of notes or other obligations and charges incurred under this section, a State shall pledge any grant for which the State may become eligible under this subchapter as security for notes or other obligations and charges issued under this section by any eligible public entity in the State.

**(f) Pledged grants for repayments**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the Secretary may apply grants pledged pursuant to paragraphs (1)(B) and (2) of subsection (e) of this section to any repayments due the United States as a result of the guarantees.

**(g) Outstanding obligations**

The total amount of outstanding obligations guaranteed on a cumulative basis by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall not at any time exceed such amount as may be authorized to be appropriated for such purpose for any fiscal year.

**(h) Purchase of guaranteed obligations by Federal Financing Bank**

Notes or other obligations guaranteed under this section may not be purchased by the Federal Financing Bank.

**(i) Full faith and credit**

The full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the payment of all guarantees made under this section. Any such guarantee made by the Secretary shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of the obligations for the guarantee with respect to principal and interest. The validity of the guarantee shall be incontestable in the hands of a holder of the guaranteed obligations.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381H, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1145.)

**§ 2009h. Local involvement**

An application for assistance under this subchapter shall include evidence of significant community support for the project for which the assistance is requested. In the case of assistance for a community facilities or infrastructure project, the evidence shall be in the form of a certification of support for the project from each affected general purpose local government.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381I, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009i. Interstate collaboration**

The Secretary shall permit the establishment of voluntary pooling arrangements among

States, and regional fund-sharing agreements, to carry out projects receiving assistance under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381J, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009j. Annual report**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary, in collaboration with State, local, public, and private entities, State rural development councils, and community-based organizations, shall prepare an annual report that contains evaluations, assessments, and performance outcomes concerning the rural community advancement programs carried out under this subchapter.

**(b) Submission**

Not later than March 1 of each year, the Secretary shall—

(1) submit the report required by subsection (a) of this section to Congress and the chief executives of the States participating in the program established under this subchapter; and

(2) make the report available to State and local participants.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381K, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009k. Rural development interagency working group**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall provide leadership within the Executive branch for, and assume responsibility for, establishing an interagency working group chaired by the Secretary.

**(b) Duties**

The working group shall establish policy for, coordinate, make recommendations with respect to, and evaluate the performance of, all Federal rural development efforts.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381L, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009l. Duties of Rural Economic and Community Development State Offices**

In carrying out this subchapter, the Director of a Rural Economic and Community Development State Office shall—

(1) to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that the State strategic plan referred to in section 2009c of this title is implemented;

(2) coordinate community development objectives within the State;

(3) establish links between local, State, and field office program administrators of the Department of Agriculture;

(4) ensure that recipient communities comply with applicable Federal and State laws and requirements; and

(5) integrate State development programs with assistance under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381M, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009m. Electronic transfer**

The Secretary shall transfer funds in accordance with this subchapter through electronic transfer as soon as practicable after April 4, 1996.

(Pub. L. 87–128, title III, §381N, as added Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1147.)

**§ 2009n. Repealed. Pub. L. 107–171, title VI, § 6026(b), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 372**

Section, Pub. L. 87–128, title III, §381O, as added Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1147, related to rural venture capital demonstration program.

SUBCHAPTER VI—DELTA REGIONAL  
AUTHORITY

**§ 2009aa. Definitions**

In this subchapter:

**(1) Authority**

The term “Authority” means the Delta Regional Authority established by section 2009aa–1 of this title.

**(2) Region**

The term “region” means the Lower Mississippi (as defined in section 4 of the Delta Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3121 note; Public Law 100–460)).

**(3) Federal grant program**

The term “Federal grant program” means a Federal grant program to provide assistance in—

- (A) acquiring or developing land;
- (B) constructing or equipping a highway, road, bridge, or facility; or
- (C) carrying out other economic development activities.

**(4) Alabama as participating State**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State of Alabama shall be a full member of the Delta Regional Authority and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges that said membership affords to all other participating States in the Delta Regional Authority.

(Pub. L. 87–128, title III, §382A, as added and amended Pub. L. 106–554, §1(a)(4) [div. B, title I, §153(b), title V, §503], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A–252, 2763A–269.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Delta Development Act, referred to in par. (2), is S. 2836 of the 100th Congress, as introduced on Sept. 27, 1988, and incorporated by reference by, and made a part of, Pub. L. 100–460, title II, Oct. 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2246, as amended. Section 4 of the Delta Development Act, which was set out in a note under section 3121 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, was omitted from the Code. See Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission note under section 3121 of Title 42 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2000—Par. (4). Pub. L. 106–554, §1(a)(4) [div. B, title I, §153(b)], added par. (4).

FINDINGS AND PURPOSES

Pub. L. 106–554, §1(a)(4) [div. B, title V, §502], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A–268, provided that:

“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

“(1) the lower Mississippi River region (referred to in this title [enacting this subchapter and amending provisions classified as a note under section 3121 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare] as the ‘region’), though rich in natural and human resources, lags behind the rest of the United States in economic growth and prosperity;

“(2) the region suffers from a greater proportion of measurable poverty and unemployment than any other region of the United States;

“(3) the greatest hope for economic growth and revitalization in the region lies in the development of transportation infrastructure, creation of jobs, expansion of businesses, and development of entrepreneurial local economies;

“(4) the economic progress of the region requires an adequate transportation and physical infrastructure, a skilled and trained workforce, and greater opportunities for enterprise development and entrepreneurship;

“(5) a concerted and coordinated effort among Federal, State, and local agencies, the private sector, and nonprofit groups is needed if the region is to achieve its full potential for economic development;

“(6) economic development planning on a regional or multicounty basis offers the best prospect for achieving the maximum benefit from public and private investments; and

“(7) improving the economy of the region requires a special emphasis on areas of the region that are most economically distressed.

“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this title are—

“(1) to promote and encourage the economic development of the region—

“(A) to ensure that the communities and people in the region have the opportunity for economic development; and

“(B) to ensure that the economy of the region reaches economic parity with that of the rest of the United States;

“(2) to establish a formal framework for joint Federal-State collaboration in meeting and focusing national attention on the economic development needs of the region;

“(3) to assist the region in obtaining the transportation and basic infrastructure, skills training, and opportunities for economic development that are essential for strong local economies;

“(4) to foster coordination among all levels of government, the private sector, and nonprofit groups in crafting common regional strategies that will lead to broader economic growth;

“(5) to strengthen efforts that emphasize regional approaches to economic development and planning;

“(6) to encourage the participation of interested citizens, public officials, agencies, and others in developing and implementing local and regional plans for broad-based economic and community development; and

“(7) to focus special attention on areas of the region that suffer from the greatest economic distress.”

**§ 2009aa–1. Delta Regional Authority****(a) Establishment****(1) In general**

There is established the Delta Regional Authority.

**(2) Composition**

The Authority shall be composed of—

(A) a Federal member, to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(B) the Governor (or a designee of the Governor) of each State in the region that elects to participate in the Authority.