Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095; Pub. L. 99-660, title VIII, §807, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3800.)

#### CODIFICATION

In subsec. (d)(2), "chapter 31 of title 31" and "that chapter" substituted for "the Second Liberty Bond Act" and "that Act", respectively, on authority of Pub. L. 97-258, §4(b), Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1067, the first section of which enacted Title 31, Money and Finance.

#### AMENDMENTS

1986—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 99–514 substituted "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" for "Internal Revenue Code of 1954", which for purposes of codification was translated as "title 26" thus requiring no change in text.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 99-660 inserted "before October 1, 1986," after "guarantees issued by him".

1981—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 97–35 inserted provisions relating to changes in the rate of interest by the Secretary, and in cl. (D) made changes in nomenclature.

1978—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 95–559, §4(c)(2)(A), in pars. (1) and (2) inserted "and to take the action authorized by subsection (f) of this section" after "by him under this subchapter".

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 95–559, 4(c)(2)(B), inserted "and to take the action authorized by subsection (f) of this section" after "loans under this subchapter".

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 95–559, \$4(c)(1), added subsec. (f). 1976—Subsec. (a)(1)(A). Pub. L. 94–460, \$109(c)(1), substituted "for loans with similar maturities, terms, conditions, and security" for "for similar loans".

Subsec. (b)(2)(D). Pub. L. 94–460, §109(c)(2), substituted "marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturities, adjusted to provide for appropriate administrative charges" for "loans guaranteed under this subchapter".

Subsec. (c)(5). Pub. L. 94-460, §109(b)(2), added par. (5).

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-660 effective Oct. 1, 1985, see section 815(a) of Pub. L. 99-660, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 1986 Amendment note under section 300e-1 of this title.

### Effective Date of 1978 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 95–559 effective only for fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 1978, see section 4(d) of Pub. L. 95–559, set out as a note under section 300e-4 of this title.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 94–460 effective Oct. 8, 1976, except that the amendment by section 109(c) of Pub. L. 94–460 applicable with respect to loan guarantees made under section 300e–4 of this title after Sept. 30, 1976, see section 118 of Pub. L. 94–460, set out as a note under section 300e of this title.

#### § 300e-8. Authorization of appropriations

- (a) For grants under section 300e-16 of this title there is authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984.
- (b) To meet the obligations of the loan fund established under section 300e–7(e) of this title resulting from defaults on loans made from the fund and to meet the other obligations of the fund, there is authorized to be appropriated to the loan fund for fiscal years 1987, 1988, and 1989, such sums as may be necessary.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XIII, §1309, as added Pub. L. 93–222, §2, Dec. 29, 1973, 87 Stat. 930; amended Pub. L. 94–460, title I, §113(c), Oct. 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1954; Pub. L. 95–83, title I, §105(b), Aug. 1, 1977, 91 Stat. 384; Pub. L. 95–559, §§2(c),

7(b), Nov. 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 2131, 2135; Pub. L. 97–35, title IX, §941(a), (b), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 572; Pub. L. 99–660, title VIII, §§803(b)(3), 811, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3800, 3801.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1986—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 99–660, §803(b)(3), struck out par. (2) designation and struck out par. (1) which read as follows: "For grants and contracts under sections 300e–2 and 300e–3 of this title there is authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for the fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984. No funds appropriated under this paragraph may be expended or obligated for a grant or contract unless the entity received a grant or contract under section 242a or 242b of this title during or before the fiscal year 1981."

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 99-660, §811, amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: "To maintain in the loan fund established under section 300e-7(e) of this title for the purpose of making new loans a balance of at least \$5,000,000 at the end of each fiscal year and to meet the obligations of the loan fund resulting from defaults on loans made from the fund and to meet the other obligations of the fund, there is authorized to be appropriated to the loan fund for fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984, such sums as may be necessary to assure such balance and meet such obligations."

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97–35, §941(a), substituted provisions authorizing appropriations for fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984, and provisions respecting prior receipt of funds, for provisions authorizing appropriations for fiscal years ending June 30, 1974, 1975, and 1976, and Sept. 30, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, and 1981.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 97–35, §941(b), substituted provisions relating to maintenance of the loan fund for fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984, for provisions relating to maintenance of the loan fund for fiscal years ending June 30, 1974, and 1975.

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95–559 substituted "300e–3(b) and 300e–16 of this title" for "and 300e–3(b) of this title" and ", \$31,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1979, \$65,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1980, and \$68,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1981" for "; and for the purpose of making payments under grants and contracts under section 300e–3(b) of this title for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1979, there is authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000".

1977—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95–83 substituted, where appearing the second time, "September 30, 1979" for "September 30, 1977".

1976—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 94–460 substituted "\$40,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, \$45,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977, and \$45,000,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1978;" for "and \$85,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976;" and "for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1977, there is authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000" for "for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977, there is authorized \$85,000,000".

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 803(b)(3) of Pub. L. 99-660 not applicable to any grant made or contract entered into under this subchapter before Oct. 1, 1985, see section 803(c) of Pub. L. 99-660, set out as a note under section 300e-5 of this title.

Amendment by Pub. L. 99-660 effective Oct. 1, 1985, see section 815(a) of Pub. L. 99-660, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 1986 Amendment note under section 300e-1 of this title.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1978 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 7(b) of Pub. L. 95-559 effective only for fiscal years beginning on or after Oct. 1, 1978, see section 7(c) of Pub. L. 95-559, set out as an Effective Date note under section 300e-16 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 94–460 effective Oct. 8, 1976, see section 118 of Pub. L. 94–460, set out as a note under section 300e of this title.

# § 300e-9. Employees' health benefits plans (a) Regulations; membership option

In accordance with regulations which the Secretary shall prescribe—

(1) each employer-

- (A) which is required during any calendar quarter to pay its employees the minimum wage prescribed by section 206 of title 29 (or would be required to pay its employees such wage but for section 213(a) of title 29), and
- (B) which during such calendar quarter employed an average number of employees of not less than 25, and
- (2) any State and each political subdivision thereof which during any calendar quarter employed an average number of employees of not less than 25, as a condition of payment to the State of funds under section 247b, 247c, or 300a of this title.

which offers to its employees in the calendar year beginning after such calendar quarter the option of membership in a qualified health maintenance organization which is engaged in the provision of basic health services in a health maintenance organization service area in which at least 25 of such employees reside shall meet the requirements of subsection (b) of this section with respect to any qualified health maintenance organization offered by the employer or State or political subdivision.

## (b) Nondiscriminatory contributions for services; payroll deductions; effect on costs

- (1) If a health benefits plan offered by an employer or a State or political subdivision includes contributions for services offered under the plan, the employer or State or political subdivision shall make a contribution under the plan for services offered by a qualified health maintenance organization in an amount which does not financially discriminate against an employee who enrolls in such organization. For purposes of the preceding sentence, an employer's or a State's or political subdivision's contribution does not financially discriminate if the employer's or State's or political subdivision's method of determining the contributions on behalf of all employees is reasonable and is designed to assure employees a fair choice among health benefits plans.
- (2) Each employer or State or political subdivision which provides payroll deductions as a means of paying employees' contributions for health benefits or which provides a health benefits plan to which an employee contribution is not required shall, with the consent of an employee who exercises option of membership in a qualified health maintenance organization, arrange for the employee's contribution for membership in the organization to be paid through payroll deductions.
- (3) No employer or State or political subdivision shall be required to pay more for health benefits as a result of the application of this subsection than would otherwise be required by

any prevailing collective bargaining agreement or other legally enforceable contract for the provision of health benefits between the employer or State or political subdivision and its employ-

### (c) "Qualified health maintenance organization" defined

For purposes of this section, the term "qualified health maintenance organization" means (1) a health maintenance organization which has provided assurances satisfactory to the Secretary that it provides basic and supplemental health services to its members in the manner prescribed by section 300e(b) of this title and that it is organized and operated in the manner prescribed by section 300e(c) of this title, and (2) an entity which proposes to become a health maintenance organization and which the Secretary determines will when it becomes operational provide basic and supplemental health services to its members in the manner prescribed by section 300e(b) of this title and will be organized and operated in the manner prescribed by section 300e(c) of this title.

## (d) Civil penalty; notice and presentation of views; review

- (1) Any employer who knowingly does not comply with one or more of the requirements of paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (b) of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000. If such noncompliance continues, a civil penalty may be assessed and collected under this subsection for each thirty-day period such noncompliance continues. Such penalty may be assessed by the Secretary and collected in a civil action brought by the United States in a United States district court.
- (2) In any proceeding by the Secretary to assess a civil penalty under this subsection, no penalty shall be assessed until the employer charged shall have been given notice and an opportunity to present its views on such charge. In determining the amount of the penalty, or the amount agreed upon in compromise, the Secretary shall consider the gravity of the noncompliance and the demonstrated good faith of the employer charged in attempting to achieve rapid compliance after notification by the Secretary of a noncompliance.
- (3) In any civil action brought to review the assessment of a civil penalty assessed under this subsection, the court shall, at the request of any party to such action, hold a trial de novo on the assessment of such civil penalty and in any civil action to collect such a civil penalty, the court shall, at the request of any party to such action, hold a trial de novo on the assessment of such civil penalty unless in a prior civil action to review the assessment of such penalty the court held a trial de novo on such assessment.

### (e) "Employer" defined

For purposes of this section, the term "employer" does not include (1) the Government of the United States, the government of the District of Columbia or any territory or possession of the United States, a State or any political subdivision thereof, or any agency or instrumentality (including the United States Postal Service and Postal Regulatory Commission) of any