

igned by the Director it shall have power to adopt, alter, and use a corporate seal; to make contracts; to purchase or lease and hold or dispose of such real estate as may be necessary or convenient for the transaction of its business; to sue and be sued, to complain and to defend, in any court of competent jurisdiction, State or Federal; to select, employ, and fix the compensation of such officers, employees, attorneys, and agents as shall be necessary for the transaction of its business;¹ to define their duties, require bonds of them and fix the penalties thereof, and to dismiss at pleasure such officers, employees, attorneys, and agents; and, by the board of directors of the bank, to prescribe, amend, and repeal by-laws governing the manner in which its affairs may be administered, consistent with applicable laws and regulations, as administered by the Director. No officer, employee, attorney, or agent of a Federal home loan bank who receives compensation, may be a member of the board of directors. Each such bank shall have all such incidental powers, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, as are customary and usual in corporations generally.

(b) Subject to such regulations as may be prescribed by the Director, one or more Federal home loan banks may acquire, hold, or dispose of, in whole or in part, or facilitate such acquisition, holding, or disposition by members of any such bank of, housing project loans, or interests therein, having the benefit of any guaranty under section 2181 of title 22, as now or hereafter in effect, or loans, or interests therein, having the benefit of any guaranty under section 2184 of title 22 or any commitment or agreement with respect to such loans, or interests therein, made pursuant to either of such sections. This authority extends to the acquisition, holding, and disposition of loans, or interests therein, having the benefit of any guaranty under section 2181 or 2182 of title 22 or such sections as hereafter amended or extended, or of any commitment or agreement for any such guaranty.

(July 22, 1932, ch. 522, §12, 47 Stat. 735; Pub. L. 89-754, title X, §1016(a), Nov. 3, 1966, 80 Stat. 1293; Pub. L. 90-448, title XVII, §1717, Aug. 1, 1968, 82 Stat. 609; Pub. L. 91-609, title IX, §907(a), Dec. 31, 1970, 84 Stat. 1811; Pub. L. 101-73, title VII, §701(b)(1), (3)(A), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 412; Pub. L. 106-102, title VI, §606(d), Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1454; Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title II, §1204(8), (10), July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2786.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 2184 of title 22, referred to in subsec. (b), which related to housing projects in Latin American countries, was omitted in the general amendment made by section 105 of Pub. L. 91-175, Dec. 30, 1969, 83 Stat. 807. See section 2182 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-289 substituted “administered by the Director” for “administered by the Finance Board” and “the Director” for “the Board” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-289, §1204(8), substituted “the Director” for “the Board”.

1999—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106-102, §606(d)(1), struck out “, but, except with the prior approval of the Board, no bank building shall be bought or erected to house any such bank, or leased by such bank under any lease for such purpose which has a term of more than ten years” after “convenient for the transaction of its business”, struck out “subject to the approval of the Board” after “necessary for the transaction of its business”, substituted “and, by the board of directors of the bank, to prescribe, amend, and repeal by-laws governing the manner in which its affairs may be administered, consistent with applicable laws and regulations, as administered by the Finance Board. No officer, employee, attorney, or agent of a Federal home loan bank” for “and, by its Board of directors, to prescribe, amend, and repeal bylaws, rules, and regulations governing the manner in which its affairs may be administered; and the powers granted to it by law may be exercised and enjoyed subject to the approval of the Board. The president of a Federal Home Loan Bank may also be a member of the Board of directors thereof, but no other officer, employee, attorney, or agent of such bank”, and, in penultimate sentence, substituted “board of directors” for “Board of directors” after “may be a member of the”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-102, §606(d)(2), substituted “Federal home loan banks” for “Federal home loans banks”.

1989—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-73 substituted “Board” for “board” wherever appearing.

1970—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 91-609 extended authority to make housing project loans to acquisition, holding, and disposition of loans, or interest therein, having benefit of any guaranty under section 2181 or 2182 of title 22 or such sections as hereafter amended or extended, or of any commitment or agreement for any such guaranty.

1968—Pub. L. 90-448 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1966—Pub. L. 89-754 substituted “but, except with the prior approval of the board, no bank building shall be bought or erected to house any such bank, or leased by such bank under any lease” for “but no bank building shall be bought or erected to house any such bank, nor shall any such bank make any lease” in second sentence.

§ 1433. Exemption from taxation; obligations acceptable as credit on debt of home owner

Any and all notes, debentures, bonds, and other such obligations issued by any bank, and consolidated Federal Home Loan Bank bonds and debentures, shall be exempt both as to principal and interest from all taxation (except surtaxes, estate, inheritance, and gift taxes) now or hereafter imposed by the United States, by any Territory, dependency, or possession thereof, or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority. The bank, including its franchise, its capital, reserves, and surplus, its advances, and its income, shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States, by any Territory, dependency, or possession thereof, or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority; except that in¹ any real property of the bank shall be subject to State, Territorial, county, municipal, or local taxation to the same extent according to its value as other real property is taxed. The notes, debentures, and bonds issued by any bank, with unearned coupons attached, shall be accepted at par by such bank in payment of or as a credit against the obligation of any home-owner debtor of such bank.

¹ So in original.

¹ So in original. Word “in” probably should not appear.

(July 22, 1932, ch. 522, §13, 47 Stat. 735; May 28, 1935, ch. 150, §8, 49 Stat. 295.)

AMENDMENTS

1935—Act May 28, 1935, inserted “and consolidated Federal Home Loan Bank bonds and debentures” in first sentence.

§ 1434. Depositories of public money; financial agents

When designated for that purpose by the Secretary of the Treasury, each Federal Home Loan Bank shall be a depository of public money, except receipts from customs, under such regulations as may be prescribed by said Secretary; and it may also be employed as a financial agent of the Government; and it shall perform all such reasonable duties as depository of public money and financial agent of the Government as may be required of it.

(July 22, 1932, ch. 522, §14, 47 Stat. 736.)

§ 1435. Obligations as lawful investments; liability of United States for debentures, etc., issued by banks

Obligations of the Federal Home Loan Banks issued with the approval of the Board or the Director under this chapter shall be lawful investments, and may be accepted as security, for all fiduciary, trust, and public funds the investment or deposit of which shall be under the authority or control of the United States or any officer or officers thereof. The Federal reserve banks are authorized to act as depositaries, custodians, and/or fiscal agents for Federal Home Loan Banks in the general performance of their powers under this chapter. All obligations of Federal Home Loan Banks shall plainly state that such obligations are not obligations of the United States and are not guaranteed by the United States.

(July 22, 1932, ch. 522, §15, 47 Stat. 736; Pub. L. 101-73, title VII, §701(b)(1), (3)(A), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 412; Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title II, §1204(7), July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2786.)

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-289 inserted “or the Director” after “the Board”.

1989—Pub. L. 101-73 substituted “Board” for “board”.

§ 1436. Reserves and dividends; emergency suspensions of requirements

(a) Accumulation and maintenance of reserves; payment of dividends

Each Federal Home Loan Bank may carry to a reserve account from time-to-time such portion of its net earnings as may be determined by its board of directors. Each Federal Home Loan Bank shall establish such additional reserves and/or make such charge-offs on account of depreciation or impairment of its assets as the Director shall require from time to time. No dividends shall be paid except out of previously retained earnings or current net earnings remaining after reductions for all reserves, chargeoffs, purchases of capital certificates of the Financing Corporation, and payments relating to the Funding Corporation required under this chap-

ter have been provided for, other than chargeoffs or expenses incurred by a Bank in connection with the purchase of capital stock of the Financing Corporation under section 1441 of this title or payments relating to the Funding Corporation Principal Fund under section 1441b(e) of this title. The reserves of each Federal Home Loan Bank shall be invested, subject to such regulations, restrictions, and limitations as may be prescribed by the Director, in direct obligations of the United States, in obligations, participations, or other instruments of or issued by the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Government National Mortgage Association, in mortgages, obligations, or other securities which are or ever have been sold by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation pursuant to section 1454 or section 1455 of this title, and in such securities as fiduciary and trust funds may be invested in under the laws of the State in which the Federal Home Loan Bank is located.

(b) Assistance to member institutions in event of severe financial conditions

Notwithstanding subsection (a) or any other provision of this chapter, if the Director determines that severe financial conditions exist threatening the stability of member institutions, the Director may suspend temporarily the requirements of subsection (a) that a portion of net earnings be set aside semiannually by each Federal Home Loan Bank to a reserve account and permit each Federal Home Loan Bank to declare and pay dividends out of undivided profits.

(c) Exception in case of losses in connection with Financing Corporation stock

(1) In general

Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, if—

(A) a Federal Home Loan Bank incurs a chargeoff or an expense in connection with such bank’s investment in the stock of the Financing Corporation under section 1441 of this title;

(B) the Director determines there is an extraordinary need for the member institutions of the bank to receive dividends; and

(C) the bank has reduced all reserves (other than the reserve account required by the first 2 sentences of subsection (a)) to zero,

the Director may authorize such bank to declare and pay dividends out of undivided profits (as such term is defined in section 1441(d)(7) of this title) or the reserve account required by the first 2 sentences of subsection (a).

(2) Requirements of section 1441 of this title not affected

Notwithstanding any payment of dividends by any Federal Home Loan Bank pursuant to an authorization by the Director under paragraph (1), the applicable provisions of section 1441 of this title shall continue to apply with respect to such bank, and to such bank’s investment in the Financing Corporation, in the same manner and to the same extent as if such payment had not been made.

(July 22, 1932, ch. 522, §16, 47 Stat. 736; Aug. 2, 1954, ch. 649, title II, §204(a), 68 Stat. 622; Pub. L.