

1991—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-237, § 501(b), which directed the substitution of “systems (for purposes of this subchapter, the term ‘solar energy’ means energy derived from sources (other than fossil fuels) and technologies included in the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974) (42 U.S.C. 5901 et seq.), (12) training in maintaining records of farming and ranching operations for limited resource borrowers receiving loans under section 1934 of this title, and (13) borrower training under section 2006a of this title.” for “‘systems.’ and all that follows”, could not be executed because “systems.” does not appear in subsec. (a) was repealed by Pub. L. 102-552, § 516(f)(2). See Construction of 1991 Amendment note below.

1990—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-624, § 1818(b), as amended by Pub. L. 102-552, § 516(f)(1)(A), added cl. (13).

1985—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 99-198, § 1306, added cl. (12). Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 99-198, § 1307, added subsec. (e).

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-438 added cl. (11).

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-334, struck out “individual” after “title, to”.

1977—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-113 inserted parenthetical provision extending the section to include farm equipment which utilizes solar energy and inserted definition of “solar energy”.

1972—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 92-419, §§ 120(b), 121(1), (2), substituted “section 1941(a) for “section 1941”, designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), and added cl. (10).

Subsecs. (b) to (d). Pub. L. 92-419, § 121(3), added subsecs. (b) to (d).

1968—Pub. L. 90-488 struck out from cl. (4) the concluding phrase, “including recreational uses and facilities”, added cls. (5) and (6), and redesignated former cls. (5) to (7) as (7) to (9), respectively.

1962—Pub. L. 87-703 authorized, in cl. (4), loans to be made for recreational uses and facilities.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 104-127, title VI, § 612(b), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1089, provided that: “Section 312(c)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act [7 U.S.C. 1942(c)(1)] shall not apply until the Secretary of Agriculture makes the determination required by section 312(c)(2) of the Act.” [The Secretary’s determination relating to hazard insurance under this provision was contained in interim rules published Mar. 3, 1997, and effective Mar. 24, 1997, see 62 F.R. 9351.]

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-127 effective 90 days after Apr. 4, 1996, see section 663(b) of Pub. L. 104-127, set out as a note under section 1922 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102-552, title V, § 516(f)(1)(B), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4137, provided that: “The amendment made by subparagraph (A) [amending this section] shall take effect as if included in the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 [Pub. L. 101-624] at the time such Act became law.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1977 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-113 effective Oct. 1, 1977, see section 1901 of Pub. L. 95-113, set out as a note under section 1307 of this title.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Powers, duties, and assets of agencies, offices, and other entities within Department of Agriculture relating to rural development functions transferred to Rural Development Administration by section 2302(b) of Pub. L. 101-624.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF 1991 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102-552, title V, § 516(f)(2), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4138, provided that: “Subsection (b) of section 501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act Amendments of 1991 (Public Law 102-237; 105 Stat. 1866) [amending this section] is repealed. The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.)

shall be applied and administered as if such subsection had never become law.”

### § 1943. Limitations on amount of operating loans

#### (a) In general

The Secretary shall make or insure no loan under this subchapter—

(1) that would cause the total principal indebtedness outstanding at any one time for loans made under this subchapter to any one borrower to exceed, in the case of a loan other than a loan guaranteed by the Secretary, \$300,000, or, in the case of a loan guaranteed by the Secretary, \$700,000 (increased, beginning with fiscal year 2000, by the inflation percentage applicable to the fiscal year in which the loan is guaranteed and reduced by the unpaid indebtedness of the borrower on loans under the sections specified in section 1925 of this title that are guaranteed by the Secretary); or

(2) for the purchasing or leasing of land other than for cash rent, or for carrying on any land leasing or land purchasing program.

#### (b) Inflation percentage

For purposes of this section, the inflation percentage applicable to a fiscal year is the percentage (if any) by which—

(1) the average of the Prices Paid By Farmers Index (as compiled by the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the Department of Agriculture) for the 12-month period ending on August 31 of the immediately preceding fiscal year; exceeds

(2) the average of such index (as so defined) for the 12-month period ending on August 31, 1996.

#### (c) Microloans

##### (1) In general

Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary may establish a program to make or guarantee microloans.

##### (2) Limitations

The Secretary shall not make or guarantee a microloan under this subsection that would cause the total principal indebtedness outstanding at any 1 time for microloans made under this chapter to any 1 borrower to exceed \$50,000.

##### (3) Applications

To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall limit the administrative burdens and streamline the application and approval process for microloans under this subsection.

##### (4) Cooperative lending pilot projects

###### (A) In general

Subject to subparagraph (B), during each of the 2014 through 2018 fiscal years, the Secretary may carry out a pilot project to make loans to community development financial institutions, as the Secretary determines appropriate—

(i) to make or guarantee microloans consistent with the terms provided under this subsection; and

(ii) to provide business, financial, marketing, and credit management services to microloan borrowers.

**(B) Requirements**

Prior to making a loan to an institution described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

(i) review and approve—

(I) the loan loss reserve fund for microloans established by the institution; and  
(II) the underwriting standards for microloans of the institution; and

(ii) establish such other requirements for making a loan to the institution as the Secretary determines necessary.

**(C) Eligibility**

To be eligible for a loan under subparagraph (A), an institution described in subparagraph (A) shall, as determined by the Secretary—

(i) have the legal authority necessary to carry out the actions described in subparagraph (A);

(ii) have a proven track record of successfully assisting agricultural borrowers; and

(iii) have the services of a staff with appropriate loan making and servicing expertise.

**(D) Oversight**

Not less often than annually, on a date determined by the Secretary, an institution that has a loan under this paragraph shall provide to the Secretary such information as the Secretary may require to ensure that the services provided by the institution are serving the purposes of this subsection.

**(E) Limitation**

The Secretary shall not make more than \$10,000,000 in loans under this paragraph in any fiscal year.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §313, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 310; Pub. L. 90-488, §9, Aug. 15, 1968, 82 Stat. 771; Pub. L. 92-419, title I, §122, Aug. 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 665; Pub. L. 95-334, title I, §116, Aug. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 426; Pub. L. 98-258, title VI, §604(a), Apr. 10, 1984, 98 Stat. 139; Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(a) [title VIII, §806(b)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681-39; Pub. L. 110-234, title V, §5102, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1146; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title V, §5102, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1908; Pub. L. 113-79, title V, §5106(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 837.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

For definition of “this chapter”, referred to in subsec. (c), see note set out under section 1921 of this title.

## CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

## AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 113-79 added subsec. (c).

2008—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, §5102, substituted “\$300,000” for “\$200,000”.

1998—Pub. L. 105-277 inserted section catchline, designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, substituted “this subchapter—” for “this subchapter”, in introductory provisions, realigned margin

of par. (1) and substituted “\$700,000 (increased, beginning with fiscal year 2000, by the inflation percentage applicable to the fiscal year in which the loan is guaranteed and reduced by the unpaid indebtedness of the borrower on loans under the sections specified in section 1925 of this title that are guaranteed by the Secretary); or” for “\$400,000; or”, realigned margin of par. (2), and added subsec. (b).

1984—Pub. L. 98-258 substituted “\$200,000” and “\$400,000” for “\$100,000” and “\$200,000”, respectively.

1978—Pub. L. 95-334 substituted provisions setting forth criteria for Secretary to make or insure loans under this subchapter for provisions setting forth criteria for Secretary to make loans under this subchapter.

1972—Pub. L. 92-419 substituted “\$50,000” for “\$35,000”.

1968—Pub. L. 90-488 struck out from item (1) the proviso which limited the amount to be used for loans which would cause the indebtedness of any borrower to exceed \$15,000 to 25 per centum of the sums made available for loans.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

**§ 1944. Soil conservation district loans; limitation; purchase of conservation equipment**

Loans aggregating not more than \$500,000 in any one year may also be made to soil conservation districts which cannot obtain necessary credit elsewhere upon reasonable terms and conditions for the purchase of equipment customarily used for soil conservation purposes.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §314, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 311.)

**§ 1945. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-127, title VI, § 613, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1089**

Section, Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §315, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 311, authorized Secretary to participate in certain loans made under this subchapter.

**§ 1946. Liability of borrower****(a) Determination of interest rates**

(1) The Secretary shall make all loans under this subchapter upon the full personal liability of the borrower and upon such security as the Secretary may prescribe. The interest rates on such loans, except for guaranteed loans and loans as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3),<sup>1</sup> shall be as determined by the Secretary, but not in excess of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturities of such loans, plus an additional charge not to exceed 1 per centum as determined by the Secretary, which charge shall be deposited in the Rural Development Insurance Fund or the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as appropriate, and adjusted to the nearest one-eighth of 1 per centum. The interest rate on any guaranteed loan made under this subchapter shall be such rate as may be agreed upon by the borrower and

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.