

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §374, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VI, §649, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1105.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this title”, meaning title III of Pub. L. 87-128, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 307, known as the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title III to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1921 of this title and Tables.

EFFECTIVE DATE

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

**§ 2008j. Transferred**

Section, Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §375, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §759, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1132; amended Pub. L. 106-78, title VIII, §816, Oct. 22, 1999, 113 Stat. 1182; Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title VII, §756], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-43; Pub. L. 107-76, title VII, §731, Nov. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 736; Pub. L. 108-7, div. A, title VII, §728, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 42; Pub. L. 108-199, div. A, title VII, §726, Jan. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 35; Pub. L. 108-447, div. A, title VII, §725, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2842; Pub. L. 110-234, title XI, §11009(a), (b)(1), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1359; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XI, §11009(a), (b)(1), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2120, 2121; Pub. L. 113-79, title XII, §12102(b)(1), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 979, was renumbered section 210 of act Aug. 14, 1946, ch. 966, by Pub. L. 113-79, title XII, §12102(b)(2), (3), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 979, and transferred to section 1627b of this title.

**§ 2008k. Making and servicing of loans by personnel of State, county, or area committees**

The Secretary shall use personnel of a State, county or area committee established under section 590h(b)(5) of title 16 to make and service loans under this chapter to the extent the personnel have been trained to do so.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §376, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title V, §5320, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 349.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this title”, meaning title III of Pub. L. 87-128, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 307, known as the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title III to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1921 of this title and Tables.

**§ 2008l. Eligibility of employees of State, county, or area committee for loans and loan guarantees**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall not prohibit an employee of a State, county or area committee established under section 590h(b)(5) of title 16 or an employee of the Department of Agriculture from obtaining a loan or loan guarantee under subchapter I, II or III of this chapter.

**(b) Approvals**

**(1) County or area office**

In the case of a loan application from an employee in a county or area office, the Farm Service Agency State office shall be responsible for reviewing and approving the application.

**(2) State office**

In the case of a loan application from an employee of a State office, the Farm Service Agency national office shall be responsible for reviewing and approving the application.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §377, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title V, §5321, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 349.)

**§ 2008m. National Rural Development Partnership**

**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Agency with rural responsibilities**

The term “agency with rural responsibilities” means any executive agency (as defined in section 105 of title 5) that implements a Federal law, or administers a program, targeted at or having a significant impact on rural areas.

**(2) Coordinating Committee**

The term “Coordinating Committee” means the National Rural Development Coordinating Committee established by subsection (c).

**(3) Partnership**

The term “Partnership” means the National Rural Development Partnership continued by subsection (b).

**(4) State rural development council**

The term “State rural development council” means a State rural development council that meets the requirements of subsection (d).

**(b) Partnership**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall continue the National Rural Development Partnership composed of—

- (A) the Coordinating Committee; and
- (B) State rural development councils.

**(2) Purposes**

The purposes of the Partnership are to empower and build the capacity of States and rural communities to design flexible and innovative responses to their own special rural development needs, with local determinations of progress and selection of projects and activities.

**(3) Governing panel**

**(A) In general**

A panel consisting of representatives of the Coordinating Committee and State rural development councils shall be established to lead and coordinate the strategic operation, policies, and practices of the Partnership.

**(B) Annual reports**

In conjunction with the Coordinating Committee and State rural development councils, the panel shall prepare and submit to Congress an annual report on the activities of the Partnership.

**(4) Role of Federal Government**

The role of the Federal Government in the Partnership may be that of a partner and facilitator, with Federal agencies authorized—

- (A) to cooperate with States to implement the Partnership;