- (B) a disproportionately larger vote in one or more of the groups of cooperatives referred to in section 3013(d)(2)(A) of this title; and
- (C) the concentration of more than 5 per centum of the total voting control in any one class B or class C stockholder.

# (h) Acceptance by Bank of nonreturnable capital contributions

The Bank may accept nonreturnable capital contributions on which no interest, dividend, or patronage refund shall be payable from associations, foundations, or funds or public bodies or agencies at the discretion of the Board.

### (i) Patronage refunds

After payment of all operating expenses of the Bank, including interest on its obligations, and after setting aside appropriate funds for reserves for losses, for interest payments on class A notes and dividends on class C stock and for any redemption of class A notes in accordance with subsection (c), the Bank shall annually set aside the remaining earnings of the Bank for patronage refunds in the form of class B or C stock or allocated surplus in accordance with the bylaws of the Bank. After ten years from the date of issue of any such stock, or at such earlier time as all the Government-held stock is retired, patronage refunds may be made in cash, or partly in stock and partly in cash.

(Pub. L. 95–351, title I, 104, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 503; Pub. L. 97–35, title III, 104

### **Editorial Notes**

### AMENDMENTS

1989—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101–206 substituted "The holder of class A notes shall be entitled to interest at a rate or rates determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the current average yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable terms and conditions as of the last day of the month preceding each issuance of such class A notes to the Secretary of the Treasury, except that, until October 1, 1990, interest payments shall not exceed 25 percent of gross revenues for the year, less necessary operating expenses including a reserve for possible losses. From time to time, the Bank may, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury and consistent with the terms of this chapter, issue replacement class A notes upon terms and conditions to be agreed upon by the Bank and the Secretary, bearing interest as provided in this subsection, in substitution for those class A notes previously issued." for "The holder of class A notes shall be entitled to interest payments at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury taking into consideration the average market yield, during the month preceding the close of each fiscal year, on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturity, except that until October 1, 1990, such interest payments shall not exceed 25 per centum of gross revenues for the year less necessary operating expenses, including a reserve for possible losses. Such interest payments shall be payable annually into miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury and shall be cumulative." and inserted at end "All class A notes shall be redeemed by the Bank no later than October 31, 2020.'

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-35, §§ 394(c)(1), 395(b)(2), inserted "by other public or private investors," after "public bodies," and substituted provisions authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 1982, for provisions au-

thorizing appropriations beginning with the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1979, and authorizing use of amounts authorized but not appropriated.

authorized but not appropriated.
Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 97-35, §396(c)(1), substituted "class B" for "class A, class B,", and substituted provisions relating to class A notes, for provisions relating to class A preferred stock.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 97–35, §396(c)(2), substituted provisions relating to interest payments, redemption, etc., of class A notes, for provisions relating to issuance, dividends, etc., of class A stock.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 97–35, §396(c)(3), substituted provisions relating to class A notes, for provisions relating to class A stock.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 97–35, §396(c)(4), substituted provisions relating to class A notes, for provisions relating to class A stock.

Subsec. (g)(2)(B), Pub. L. 97–35, §396(c)(5), substituted "3013(d)(2)(A)" for "3013(c)".

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 97-35, §396(c)(6), struck out provision respecting treatment of the Bank as a governmental unit within section 170(b)(1)(A)(v) of title 26.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 97–35, \$396(c)(7), substituted provisions relating to class A notes, for provisions relating to class A stock.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 97–35, title III, §394(c)(2), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 436, provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on the day after the Final Government Equity Redemption Date [Dec. 31, 1981]." For definition of "Final Government Equity Redemption Date", see section 396(a) of Pub. L. 97–35, set out as a note under section 3012 of this title.

Pub. L. 97–35, title III, §395(b)(3), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 439, provided that: "The amendments made by paragraphs (1) [amending section 3042 of this title] and (2) [amending this section] shall take effect on October 1, 1981."

Amendment by section 396(c) of Pub. L. 97-35 effective on the day after the Final Government Equity Redemption Date (Dec. 31, 1981), see section 396(i) of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as an Effective Date of 1981 Amendment note under section 3011 of this title.

### § 3015. Eligibility of cooperatives

### (a) General requirements

For the purpose of all subchapters of this chapter, subject to the limitations of subsection (d) of this section, an eligible cooperative is an organization chartered or operated on a cooperative, not-for-profit basis for producing or furnishing goods, services or facilities, primarily for the benefit of its members or voting stockholders who are ultimate consumers of such goods, services, or facilities, or a legally chartered entity primarily owned and controlled by any such organization or organizations, if it—

- (1) makes such goods, services or facilities directly or indirectly available to its members or voting stockholders on a not-for-profit basis:
- (2) does not pay dividends on voting stock or membership capital in excess of such percentage per annum as may be approved under the bylaws of the Bank;
- (3) provides that its net savings shall be allocated or distributed to all members or patrons, in proportion to their patronage, or shall be retained for the actual or potential expansion of its services or the reduction of its charges to the patrons, or for such other pur-

poses as may be authorized by its membership not inconsistent with its purposes;

- (4) makes membership available on a voluntary basis, without any social, political, racial, or religious discrimination and without any discrimination on the basis of age, sex, or marital status, to all persons who can make use of its services and are willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, subject only to limitations under applicable Federal or State laws or regulations;
- (5) in the case of primary cooperative organizations restricts its voting control to members or voting stockholders on a one vote per person basis (except that this requirement shall not apply to any housing cooperative in existence on March 21, 1980, which did not meet such requirement on such date) and takes positive steps to insure economic democracy and maximum participation by members of the cooperative including the holding of annual meetings and, in the case of organizations owned by groups of cooperatives, provides positive protections to insure economic democracy; and
- (6) is not a credit union, mutual savings bank, or mutual savings and loan association.

### (b) Primary producers

No organization shall be ineligible because it produces, markets, or furnishes goods, services, or facilities on behalf of its members as primary producers, unless the dollar volume of loans made by the Bank to such organizations exceeds 10 per centum of the gross assets of the Bank.

### (c) "Net savings" defined

As used in this section, the term "net savings" means, for any period, the borrower's gross receipts, less the operating and other expenses deductible therefrom in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, including, without limitation, contributions to allowable reserves, and after deducting the amounts of any dividends on its capital stock or other membership capital payable during, or within forty-five days after, the close of such period.

# (d) Cooperatives eligible for other Federal credit assistance

An eligible cooperative which also has been determined to be eligible for credit assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration, the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, the Banks for Cooperatives or other institutions of the Farm Credit System, or the Farmers Home Administration may receive the assistance authorized by this chapter only (1) if the Bank determines that a request for assistance from any such source or sources has been rejected or denied solely because of the unavailability of funds from such source or sources, or (2) by agreement between the Bank and the agency or agencies involved.

### (e) Credit unions eligible for technical assistance from Office of Self-Help Development and Technical Assistance

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a credit union serving predominantly low-income members (as defined by the Administrator of the National Credit Union Adminis-

tration) may receive technical assistance under subchapter II.

(Pub. L. 95-351, title I, §105, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 506; Pub. L. 97-35, title III, §394(e)(1), (f), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 436, 437; Pub. L. 115-334, title VI, §6602(b)(18), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4777.)

### **Editorial Notes**

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

All subchapters of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original "all titles of this Act", meaning titles I to III of Pub. L. 95-351. Titles I and II constitute this chapter and title III amended section 5315 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and sections 856, 867, and 868 of former Title 31, Money and Finance.

### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 115–334 struck out "the Rural Telephone Bank," after "the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation,".

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97–35, §394(e)(1), substituted "primarily owned" for "entirely owned".

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 97–35, §394(f), inserted provisions relating to exception for housing cooperatives in existence on Mar. 21, 1980.

### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 97–35, title III, §394(e)(2), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 437, provided that: "The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall take effect on the day after the Final Government Equity Redemption Date [Dec. 31, 1981]." For definition of "Final Government Equity Redemption Date", see section 396(a) of Pub. L. 97–35, set out as a note under section 3012 of this title.

### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Functions vested in Administrator of National Credit Union Administration transferred and vested in National Credit Union Administration Board pursuant to section 1752a of this title.

## § 3016. Annual meetings; notice, agenda, etc.

The Bank shall hold an annual meeting of its stockholders which shall be open to the public. At least 30 days' advance notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be given to all stockholders. Borrowers from the Bank shall also give notice of the meeting to their members, who shall be entitled to attend. At such meeting the Bank shall give a full report of its activities during the year and its financial condition and may present proposals for future action and other matters of general concern to borrowers and organizations eligible to borrow from the Bank. Members and representatives of borrowers may present motions or resolutions relating to matters within the scope of this chapter and may participate in the discussion thereof and other matters on the agenda.

(Pub. L. 95–351, title I, \$106, Aug. 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 507.)

# § 3017. Bonds, debentures, notes and other evidences of indebtedness

# (a) Authorization for public or private sale; time of issuance, interest rates, and terms and conditions; outstanding amount

The Bank is authorized to obtain funds through the public or private sale of its bonds,