

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 531(b)(1) of Pub. L. 105-276 effective with respect to any plan for the demolition, disposition, or conversion to homeownership of public housing that is approved by Secretary after Sept. 30, 1995, see section 531(b)(2) of Pub. L. 105-276, set out as a note below.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1995 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-19 effective for applications for demolition, disposition, or conversion to homeownership of public housing approved by the Secretary, and other consolidation and relocation activities of public housing agencies undertaken on, before, or after Sept. 30, 1995, and on or before Sept. 30, 1998, see section 1002(d) of Pub. L. 104-19, as amended, set out as a note under section 1437c of this title.

HOMEOWNERSHIP REPLACEMENT PLAN

Pub. L. 105-276, title V, § 531(b), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2573, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c) of section 1002 of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Additional Disaster Assistance, for Anti-terrorism Initiatives, for Assistance in the Recovery from the Tragedy that Occurred At Oklahoma City, and Rescissions Act, 1995 [amending this section and enacting provision set out as a note under section 1437c of this title] (Public Law 104-19; 109 Stat. 236), subsection (g) of section 304 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437aaa-3(g)) is repealed.

“(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall be effective with respect to any plan for the demolition, disposition, or conversion to homeownership of public housing that is approved by the Secretary after September 30, 1995.”

§ 1437aaa-4. Other program requirements**(a) Sale by public housing agency to applicant or other entity required**

Where the Secretary approves an application providing for the transfer of the eligible project from the public housing agency to another applicant, the public housing agency shall transfer the project to such other applicant, in accordance with the approved homeownership program.

(b) Preferences

In selecting eligible families for homeownership, the recipient shall give a first preference to otherwise qualified current tenants and a second preference to otherwise qualified eligible families who have completed participation in an economic self-sufficiency program specified by the Secretary.

(c) Cost limitations

The Secretary may establish cost limitations on eligible activities under this subchapter, subject to the provisions of this subchapter.

(d) Annual contributions

Notwithstanding the purchase of a public housing project under this section, or the purchase of a unit in a public housing project by an eligible family, the Secretary shall continue to pay annual contributions with respect to the project. Such contributions may not exceed the maximum contributions authorized in section 1437c(a) of this title.

(e) Amounts from Operating Fund allocation

Amounts from an allocation from the Operating Fund under section 1437g of this title shall

not be available with respect to a public housing project after the date of its sale by the public housing agency.

(f) Use of proceeds from sales to eligible families

The entity that transfers ownership interests in, or shares representing, units to eligible families, or another entity specified in the approved application, shall use the proceeds, if any, from the initial sale for costs of the homeownership program, including operating expenses, improvements to the project, business opportunities for low-income families, supportive services related to the homeownership program, additional homeownership opportunities, and other activities approved by the Secretary.

(g) Restrictions on resale by homeowners**(1) In general****(A) Transfer permitted**

A homeowner under a homeownership program may transfer the homeowner's ownership interest in, or shares representing, the unit, except that a homeownership program may establish restrictions on the resale of units under the program.

(B) Right to purchase

Where a resident management corporation, resident council, or cooperative has jurisdiction over the unit, the corporation, council, or cooperative shall have the right to purchase the ownership interest in, or shares representing, the unit from the homeowner for the amount specified in a firm contract between the homeowner and a prospective buyer. If such an entity does not have jurisdiction over the unit or elects not to purchase and if the prospective buyer is not a low-income family, the public housing agency or the implementation grant recipient shall have the right to purchase the ownership interest in, or shares representing, the unit for the same amount.

(C) Promissory note required

The homeowner shall execute a promissory note equal to the difference between the market value and the purchase price, payable to the public housing agency or other entity designated in the homeownership plan, together with a mortgage securing the obligation of the note.

(2) 6 years or less

In the case of a transfer within 6 years of the acquisition under the program, the homeownership program shall provide for appropriate restrictions to assure that an eligible family may not receive any undue profit. The plan shall provide for limiting the family's consideration for its interest in the property to the total of—

(A) the contribution to equity paid by the family;

(B) the value, as determined by such means as the Secretary shall determine through regulation, of any improvements installed at the expense of the family during the family's tenure as owner; and

(C) the appreciated value determined by an inflation allowance at a rate which may be

based on a cost-of-living index, an income index, or market index as determined by the Secretary through regulation and agreed to by the purchaser and the entity that transfers ownership interests in, or shares representing, units to eligible families (or another entity specified in the approved application), at the time of initial sale, and applied against the contribution to equity.

Such an entity may, at the time of initial sale, enter into an agreement with the family to set a maximum amount which this appreciation may not exceed.

(3) 6–20 years

In the case of a transfer during the period beginning 6 years after the acquisition and ending 20 years after the acquisition, the homeownership program shall provide for the recapture by the Secretary or the program of an amount equal to the amount of the declining balance on the note described in paragraph (1)(C).

(4) Use of recaptured funds

Fifty percent of any portion of the net sales proceeds that may not be retained by the homeowner under the plan approved pursuant to this subsection shall be paid to the entity that transferred ownership interests in, or shares representing, units to eligible families, or another entity specified in the approved application, for use for improvements to the project, business opportunities for low-income families, supportive services related to the homeownership program, additional homeownership opportunities, and other activities approved by the Secretary. The remaining 50 percent shall be returned to the Secretary for use under this subchapter, subject to limitations contained in appropriations Acts. Such entity shall keep and make available to the Secretary all records necessary to calculate accurately payments due the Secretary under this subsection.

(h) Third party rights

The requirements under this subchapter regarding quality standards, resale, or transfer of the ownership interest of a homeowner shall be judicially enforceable against the grant recipient with respect to actions involving rehabilitation, and against purchasers of property under this subsection or their successors in interest with respect to other actions by affected low-income families, resident management corporations, resident councils, public housing agencies, and any agency, corporation, or authority of the United States Government. The parties specified in the preceding sentence shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees upon prevailing in any such judicial action.

(i) Dollar limitation on economic development activities

Not more than an aggregate of \$250,000 from amounts made available under sections 1437aaa-1 and 1437aaa-2 of this title may be used for economic development activities under sections 1437aaa-1(b)(6)¹ and 1437aaa-2(b)(9)¹ of this title for any project.

¹ See References in Text note below.

(j) Timely homeownership

Recipients shall transfer ownership of the property to tenants within a specified period of time that the Secretary determines to be reasonable. During the interim period when the property continues to be operated and managed as rental housing, the recipient shall utilize written tenant selection policies and criteria that are consistent with the public housing program and that are approved by the Secretary as consistent with the purpose of improving housing opportunities for low-income families. The recipient shall promptly notify in writing any rejected applicant of the grounds for any rejection.

(k) Capability of resident management corporations and resident councils

To be eligible to receive a grant under section 1437aaa-2 of this title, a resident management corporation or resident council shall demonstrate to the Secretary its ability to manage public housing by having done so effectively and efficiently for a period of not less than 3 years or by arranging for management by a qualified management entity.

(l) Records and audit of recipients of assistance

(1) In general

Each recipient shall keep such records as may be reasonably necessary to fully disclose the amount and the disposition by such recipient of the proceeds of assistance received under this subchapter (and any proceeds from financing obtained in accordance with subsection (b) or sales under subsections (f) and (g)(4)), the total cost of the homeownership program in connection with which such assistance is given or used, and the amount and nature of that portion of the program supplied by other sources, and such other sources as will facilitate an effective audit.

(2) Access by the Secretary

The Secretary shall have access for the purpose of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records of the recipient that are pertinent to assistance received under this subchapter.

(3) Access by the Comptroller General

The Comptroller General of the United States, or any of the duly authorized representatives of the Comptroller General, shall also have access for the purpose of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records of the recipient that are pertinent to assistance received under this subchapter.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, title III, §305, as added Pub. L. 101-625, title IV, §411, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4155; amended Pub. L. 105-276, title V, §519(c)(2), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2561.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (g)(4), was in the original "this subtitle", and was translated as reading "this title", meaning title III of act Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, as added by Pub. L. 101-625, to reflect the probable intent of Congress, because title III of act Sept. 1, 1937, does not contain subtitles.

Section 1437aaa-1(b)(6) of this title, referred to in subsec. (i), was redesignated section 1437aaa-1(b)(7) of this

title by Pub. L. 102-550, title X, §1012(h)(1)(A), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3906.

Section 1437aaa-2(b)(9) of this title, referred to in subsec. (i), was redesignated section 1437aaa-2(b)(10) of this title by Pub. L. 102-550, title X, §1012(h)(2)(A), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3906.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 105-276 substituted “Amounts from an allocation from the Operating Fund” for “Operating subsidies”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by title V of Pub. L. 105-276 effective and applicable beginning upon Oct. 1, 1999, except as otherwise provided, with provision that Secretary may implement amendment before such date, except to extent that such amendment provides otherwise, and with savings provision, see section 503 of Pub. L. 105-276, set out as a note under section 1437 of this title.

§ 1437aaa-5. Definitions

For purposes of this subchapter:

(1) The term “applicant” means the following entities that may represent the tenants of the project:

- (A) A public housing agency.
- (B) A resident management corporation, established in accordance with requirements of the Secretary under section 1437r of this title.
- (C) A resident council.
- (D) A cooperative association.
- (E) A public or private nonprofit organization.
- (F) A public body, including an agency or instrumentality thereof.

(2) The term “eligible family” means—

- (A) a family or individual who is a tenant in the public housing project on the date the Secretary approves an implementation grant;
- (B) a low-income family; or
- (C) a family or individual who is assisted under a housing program administered by the Secretary or the Secretary of Agriculture (not including any non-low income families assisted under any mortgage insurance program administered by either Secretary).

(3) The term “homeownership program” means a program for homeownership meeting the requirements under this subchapter.

(4) The term “recipient” means an applicant approved to receive a grant under this subchapter or such other entity specified in the approved application that will assume the obligations of the recipient under this subchapter.

(5) The term “resident council” means any incorporated nonprofit organization or association that—

- (A) is representative of the tenants of the housing;
- (B) adopts written procedures providing for the election of officers on a regular basis; and
- (C) has a democratically elected governing board, elected by the tenants of the housing.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, title III, §306, as added Pub. L. 101-625, title IV, §411, Nov. 28, 1990, 104

Stat. 4158; amended Pub. L. 104-330, title V, §501(c)(2), Oct. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 4042.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Par. (1)(A). Pub. L. 104-330, §501(c)(2)(A), struck out “(including an Indian housing authority)” after “agency”.

Par. (2)(A). Pub. L. 104-330, §501(c)(2)(B), struck out “or Indian” after “public”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-330 effective Oct. 1, 1997, except as otherwise expressly provided, see section 107 of Pub. L. 104-330, set out as an Effective Date note under section 4101 of Title 25, Indians.

§ 1437aaa-6. Relationship to other homeownership opportunities

The program authorized under this subchapter shall be in addition to any other public housing homeownership and management opportunities, including opportunities under section 1437c(h)¹ of this title.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, title III, §307, as added Pub. L. 101-625, title IV, §411, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4159; amended Pub. L. 104-330, title V, §501(c)(3), Oct. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 4042; Pub. L. 105-276, title V, §518(a)(2)(C), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2551.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1437c(h) of this title, referred to in text, was repealed and a new section 1437c(h), relating to audits, was added by Pub. L. 105-276, title V, §§518(a)(1)(A), 566, Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2551, 2632. See 1998 Amendment note below.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-276, which directed amendment of text by striking out “section 5(h) and” in original (a reference to section 1437c(h) of this title), could not be executed because the word “and” does not appear.

1996—Pub. L. 104-330 struck out “and subchapter II of this chapter” after “section 1437c(h) of this title”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by title V of Pub. L. 105-276 effective and applicable beginning upon Oct. 1, 1999, except as otherwise provided, with provision that Secretary may implement amendment before such date, except to extent that such amendment provides otherwise, and with savings provision, see section 503 of Pub. L. 105-276, set out as a note under section 1437 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-330 effective Oct. 1, 1997, except as otherwise expressly provided, see section 107 of Pub. L. 104-330, set out as an Effective Date note under section 4101 of Title 25, Indians.

§ 1437aaa-7. Limitation on selection criteria

In establishing criteria for selecting applicants to receive assistance under this subchapter, the Secretary may not establish any selection criterion or criteria that grant or deny such assistance to an applicant (or have the effect of granting or denying assistance) based on the implementation, continuation, or discontinuation of any public policy, regulation, or law of any jurisdiction in which the applicant or project is located.

¹ See References in Text note below.