

ganizations, shall prepare an annual report that contains evaluations, assessments, and performance outcomes concerning the rural community advancement programs carried out under this subchapter.

**(b) Submission**

Not later than March 1 of each year, the Secretary shall—

- (1) submit the report required by subsection (a) to Congress and the chief executives of the States participating in the program established under this subchapter; and
- (2) make the report available to State and local participants.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381K, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009k. Rural development interagency working group**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall provide leadership within the Executive branch for, and assume responsibility for, establishing an interagency working group chaired by the Secretary.

**(b) Duties**

The working group shall establish policy for, coordinate, make recommendations with respect to, and evaluate the performance of, all Federal rural development efforts.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381L, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009l. Duties of Rural Economic and Community Development State Offices**

In carrying out this subchapter, the Director of a Rural Economic and Community Development State Office shall—

- (1) to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that the State strategic plan referred to in section 2009c of this title is implemented;
- (2) coordinate community development objectives within the State;
- (3) establish links between local, State, and field office program administrators of the Department of Agriculture;
- (4) ensure that recipient communities comply with applicable Federal and State laws and requirements; and
- (5) integrate State development programs with assistance under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381M, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009m. Electronic transfer**

The Secretary shall transfer funds in accordance with this subchapter through electronic transfer as soon as practicable after April 4, 1996.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381N, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1147.)

**§ 2009n. Repealed. Pub. L. 107-171, title VI, § 6026(b), May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 372**

Section, Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §381O, as added Pub. L. 104-127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1147, related to rural venture capital demonstration program.

SUBCHAPTER VI—DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

**§ 2009aa. Definitions**

In this subchapter:

**(1) Authority**

The term “Authority” means the Delta Regional Authority established by section 2009aa-1 of this title.

**(2) Region**

The term “region” means the Lower Mississippi (as defined in section 4 of the Delta Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3121 note; Public Law 100-460)).

**(3) Federal grant program**

The term “Federal grant program” means a Federal grant program to provide assistance in—

- (A) acquiring or developing land;
- (B) constructing or equipping a highway, road, bridge, or facility; or
- (C) carrying out other economic development activities.

**(4) Alabama as participating State**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State of Alabama shall be a full member of the Delta Regional Authority and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges that said membership affords to all other participating States in the Delta Regional Authority.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §382A, as added and amended Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(4) [div. B, title I, §153(b), title V, §503], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-252, 2763A-269; Pub. L. 115-334, title VI, §6701(f)(1), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4778.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Delta Development Act, referred to in par. (2), is S. 2836 of the 100th Congress, as introduced on Sept. 27, 1988, and incorporated by reference by, and made a part of, Pub. L. 100-460, title II, Oct. 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2246, as amended. Section 4 of the Delta Development Act, which was set out in a note under section 3121 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, was omitted from the Code. See Lower Mississippi Delta Development Commission note under section 3121 of Title 42 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Par. (4). Pub. L. 115-334 added par. (4).  
 2000—Par. (4). Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(4) [div. B, title I, §153(b)], which directed amendment of “section 382A of “The Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000” as incorporated in this Act” by adding par. (4), could not be executed as directed because this section is not section 382A of such Act, but rather section 382A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as added by section 503 of the Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000. Corrected amendment was made by Pub. L. 115-334, effective as if included in Pub. L. 106-554. See 2018 Amendment note above and 2018 Effective Date of 2018 Amendment note below.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 115-334, title VI, §6701(f)(2), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4778, provided that: “The amendment made by

this subsection [amending this section] shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 153(b) of division B of H.R. 5666, as introduced in the 106th Congress, and as enacted by section 1(4) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001 (Appendix D of Public Law 106-554; 114 Stat. 2763A-252).”

#### FINDINGS AND PURPOSES

Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(4) [div. B, title V, §502], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-268, provided that:

“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

“(1) the lower Mississippi River region (referred to in this title [enacting this subchapter and amending provisions classified as a note under section 3121 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare] as the ‘region’), though rich in natural and human resources, lags behind the rest of the United States in economic growth and prosperity;

“(2) the region suffers from a greater proportion of measurable poverty and unemployment than any other region of the United States;

“(3) the greatest hope for economic growth and revitalization in the region lies in the development of transportation infrastructure, creation of jobs, expansion of businesses, and development of entrepreneurial local economies;

“(4) the economic progress of the region requires an adequate transportation and physical infrastructure, a skilled and trained workforce, and greater opportunities for enterprise development and entrepreneurship;

“(5) a concerted and coordinated effort among Federal, State, and local agencies, the private sector, and nonprofit groups is needed if the region is to achieve its full potential for economic development;

“(6) economic development planning on a regional or multicounty basis offers the best prospect for achieving the maximum benefit from public and private investments; and

“(7) improving the economy of the region requires a special emphasis on areas of the region that are most economically distressed.

“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this title are—

“(1) to promote and encourage the economic development of the region—

“(A) to ensure that the communities and people in the region have the opportunity for economic development; and

“(B) to ensure that the economy of the region reaches economic parity with that of the rest of the United States;

“(2) to establish a formal framework for joint Federal-State collaboration in meeting and focusing national attention on the economic development needs of the region;

“(3) to assist the region in obtaining the transportation and basic infrastructure, skills training, and opportunities for economic development that are essential for strong local economies;

“(4) to foster coordination among all levels of government, the private sector, and nonprofit groups in crafting common regional strategies that will lead to broader economic growth;

“(5) to strengthen efforts that emphasize regional approaches to economic development and planning;

“(6) to encourage the participation of interested citizens, public officials, agencies, and others in developing and implementing local and regional plans for broad-based economic and community development; and

“(7) to focus special attention on areas of the region that suffer from the greatest economic distress.”

### § 2009aa-1. Delta Regional Authority

#### (a) Establishment

##### (1) In general

There is established the Delta Regional Authority.

#### (2) Composition

The Authority shall be composed of—

(A) a Federal member, to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(B) the Governor (or a designee of the Governor) of each State in the region that elects to participate in the Authority.

#### (3) Cochairpersons

The Authority shall be headed by—

(A) the Federal member, who shall serve—

(i) as the Federal cochairperson; and

(ii) as a liaison between the Federal Government and the Authority; and

(B) a State cochairperson, who—

(i) shall be a Governor of a participating State in the region; and

(ii) shall be elected by the State members for a term of not less than 1 year.

#### (b) Alternate members

##### (1) State alternates

The State member of a participating State may have a single alternate, who shall be—

(A) a resident of that State; and

(B) appointed by the Governor of the State.

##### (2) Alternate Federal cochairperson

The President shall appoint an alternate Federal cochairperson.

##### (3) Quorum

A State alternate shall not be counted toward the establishment of a quorum of the Authority in any instance in which a quorum of the State members is required to be present.

##### (4) Delegation of power

No power or responsibility of the Authority specified in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (c), and no voting right of any Authority member, shall be delegated to any person—

(A) who is not an Authority member; or

(B) who is not entitled to vote in Authority meetings.

#### (c) Voting

##### (1) In general—voting

A decision by the Authority shall require the affirmative vote of the Federal cochairperson and a majority of the State members (not including any member representing a State that is delinquent under subsection (g)(2)(C)) to be effective.

##### (2) Quorum

A quorum of State members shall be required to be present for the Authority to make any policy decision, including—

(A) a modification or revision of an Authority policy decision;

(B) approval of a State or regional development plan; and

(C) any allocation of funds among the States.

##### (3) Project and grant proposals

The approval of project and grant proposals shall be—

(A) a responsibility of the Authority; and