

more efficient and less costly by the adoption of standards and procedures applicable only to housing for such families;

“(E) the cost containment policies currently being implemented in the development of small group homes (i) do not adequately reflect the necessity for building designs to meet the needs of the designated residents; and (ii) do not recognize necessary State and local standards for the operation of such homes;

“(F) the use of the program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 to assist rentals for housing for nonelderly handicapped families is time consuming and unnecessarily costly and, in some areas of the Nation, prevents the development of such housing;

“(G) the use of the program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 to assist rentals for housing for nonelderly handicapped families should be replaced by a more appropriate subsidy mechanism;

“(H) both elderly and handicapped housing projects assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 will benefit from an increased emphasis on supportive services and a greater use of State and local funds; and

“(I) an improved program for nonelderly handicapped families will assist in providing shelter and supportive services for mentally ill persons who might otherwise be homeless.

“(2) The purpose of this section is to improve the direct loan program under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 to ensure that such program meets the special housing and related needs of nonelderly handicapped families.”

TERMINATION OF SECTION 8 ASSISTANCE

Pub. L. 100-242, title I, §162(d), Feb. 5, 1988, 101 Stat. 1859, provided that: “On and after the first date that amounts approved in an appropriation Act for any fiscal year become available for contracts under section 202(h)(4)(A) of the Housing Act of 1959 [12 U.S.C. 1701q(h)(4)(A)], as amended by subsection (b) of this section, no project for handicapped (primarily nonelderly) families approved for such fiscal year pursuant to section 202 of such Act shall be provided assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 [42 U.S.C. 1437f], except pursuant to a reservation for a contract to make such assistance payments that was made before the first date that amounts for contracts under such section 202(h)(4)(A) became available.”

IMPLEMENTATION OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-242, title I, §162(e), Feb. 5, 1988, 101 Stat. 1859, provided that: “Not later than the expiration of the 120-day period following the date of the enactment of this Act [Feb. 5, 1988], the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, to the extent amounts are approved in an appropriation Act for use under section 202(h)(4)(A) of the Housing Act of 1959 [12 U.S.C. 1701q(h)(4)(A)] for fiscal year 1988, publish in the Federal Register a notice of fund availability to implement the provisions of, and amendments made by, this section [amending this section and enacting and repealing provisions set out above]. The Secretary shall issue such rules as may be necessary to carry out such provisions and amendments for fiscal year 1989 and thereafter.”

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY OR HANDICAPPED FUND

Pub. L. 101-507, title II, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1361, provided: “That, notwithstanding section 202(a)(3) of the Housing Act of 1959 [12 U.S.C. 1701q(a)(3)], any such obligations [direct loan obligations made in fiscal year 1991] shall bear an interest rate which does not exceed 9.25 per centum, including the allowance adequate in the judgment of the Secretary to cover administrative costs and probable losses under the program.”

Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

Pub. L. 101-144, title II, Nov. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 847.

Pub. L. 100-404, title I, Aug. 19, 1988, 102 Stat. 1016.

Pub. L. 100-202, §101(f) [title I], Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329-187, 1329-190.

Pub. L. 99-500, §101(g) [H.R. 5313, title I], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-242, and Pub. L. 99-591, §101(g), Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341-242.

Pub. L. 99-160, title I, Nov. 25, 1985, 99 Stat. 911.

Pub. L. 98-371, title I, July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1216.

Pub. L. 98-45, title I, as added Pub. L. 98-181, title I, Nov. 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 1153.

REPORTS RESPECTING ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED HOUSING PROGRAMS IN RURAL AREAS, ETC.

Pub. L. 96-153, title III, §306(e), (f), Dec. 21, 1979, 93 Stat. 1113, required Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, not later than six months after Dec. 21, 1979, to report to Congress on housing needs of elderly and handicapped in rural areas and recommend to Congress on means to reduce costs of program carried out under this section.

FEASIBILITY AND MARKETABILITY OF PROJECTS; ASSISTANCE FOR PROJECTS SERVICING LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME FAMILIES

Pub. L. 93-383, title II, §210(g), Aug. 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 671, provided that:

“(1) In determining the feasibility and marketability of a project under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 [this section], the Secretary shall consider the availability of monthly assistance payments pursuant to section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 [42 U.S.C. 1437f] with respect to such a project.

“(2) The Secretary shall insure that with the original approval of a project authorized pursuant to section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, and thereafter at each annual revision of the assistance contract under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 with respect to units in such project, the project will serve both low- and moderate-income families in a mix which he determines to be appropriate for the area and for viable operation of the project; except that the Secretary shall not permit maintenance of vacancies to await tenants of one income level where tenants of another income level are available.”

§ 1701q-1. Civil money penalties against mortgagors under section 1701q of this title

(a) In general

The penalties set forth in this section shall be in addition to any other available civil remedy or criminal penalty, and may be imposed whether or not the Secretary imposes other administrative sanctions. The Secretary may not impose penalties under this section for violations a material cause of which are the failure of the Department, an agent of the Department, or a public housing agency to comply with existing agreements.

(b) Penalty for violation of agreement as condition of transfer of physical assets, flexible subsidy loan, capital improvement loan, modification of mortgage terms, or workout agreement

(1) In general

Whenever a mortgagor of property that includes 5 or more living units and that has a mortgage held pursuant to section 1701q of this title, who has agreed in writing, as a condition of a transfer of physical assets, a flexible subsidy loan, a capital improvement loan, a modification of the mortgage terms, or a workout agreement, to use nonproject income to make cash contributions for payments due

under the note and mortgage, for payments to the reserve for replacements, to restore the project to good physical condition, or to pay other project liabilities, knowingly and materially fails to comply with any of these commitments, the Secretary may impose a civil money penalty on the mortgagor in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(2) Amount

The amount of the penalty, as determined by the Secretary, for a violation of this subsection may not exceed the amount of the loss the Secretary would incur at a foreclosure sale, or sale after foreclosure, with respect to the property involved.

(c) Violations of regulatory agreement

(1) In general

The Secretary may also impose a civil money penalty on a mortgagor or property that includes 5 or more living units and that has a mortgage held pursuant to section 1701q of this title for any knowing and material violation of the regulatory agreement executed by the mortgagor, as follows:

(A) Conveyance, transfer, or encumbrance of any of the mortgaged property, or permitting the conveyance, transfer, or encumbrance of such property, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(B) Assignment, transfer, disposition, or encumbrance of any personal property of the project, including rents, or paying out any funds, except for reasonable operating expenses and necessary repairs, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(C) Conveyance, assignment, or transfer of any beneficial interest in any trust holding title to the property, or the interest of any general partner in a partnership owning the property, or any right to manage or receive the rents and profits from the mortgaged property, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(D) Remodeling, adding to, reconstructing, or demolishing any part of the mortgaged property or subtracting from any real or personal property of the project, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(E) Requiring, as a condition of the occupancy or leasing of any unit in the project, any consideration or deposit other than the prepayment of the first month's rent, plus a security deposit in an amount not in excess of 1 month's rent, to guarantee the performance of the covenants of the lease.

(F) Not holding any funds collected as security deposits separate and apart from all other funds of the project in a trust account, the amount of which at all times equals or exceeds the aggregate of all outstanding obligations under the account.

(G) Payment for services, supplies, or materials which exceeds \$500 and substantially exceeds the amount ordinarily paid for such services, supplies, or materials in the area where the services are rendered or the supplies or materials furnished.

(H) Failure to maintain at any time the mortgaged property, equipment, buildings,

plans, offices, apparatus, devices, books, contracts, records, documents, and other related papers (including failure to keep copies of all written contracts or other instruments which affect the mortgaged property) in reasonable condition for proper audit and for examination and inspection at any reasonable time by the Secretary or any duly authorized agents of the Secretary.

(I) Failure to maintain the books and accounts of the operations of the mortgaged property and of the project in accordance with requirements prescribed by the Secretary.

(J) Failure to furnish the Secretary, by the expiration of the 60-day period beginning on the 1st day after the completion of each fiscal year, with a complete annual financial report based upon an examination of the books and records of the mortgagor prepared in accordance with requirements prescribed by the Secretary, and prepared and certified to by an independent public accountant or a certified public accountant and certified to by an officer of the mortgagor, unless the Secretary has approved an extension of the 60-day period in writing. The Secretary shall approve an extension where the mortgagor demonstrates that failure to comply with this subparagraph is due to events beyond the control of the mortgagor.

(K) At the request of the Secretary, the agents of the Secretary, the employees of the Secretary, or the attorneys of the Secretary, failure to furnish monthly occupancy reports or failure to provide specific answers to questions upon which information is sought relative to income, assets, liabilities, contracts, the operation and condition of the property, or the status of the mortgage.

(L) Failure to make promptly all payments due under the note and mortgage, including tax and insurance escrow payments, and payments to the reserve for replacements when there is adequate project income available to make such payments.

(M) Amending the articles of incorporation or bylaws, other than as permitted under the terms of the articles of incorporation as approved by the Secretary, without the prior written approval of the Secretary.

(2) Amount of penalty

A penalty imposed for a violation under this subsection, as determined by the Secretary, may not exceed \$25,000 for a violation of any of the subparagraphs of paragraph (1).

(d) Agency procedures

(1) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish standards and procedures governing the imposition of civil money penalties under subsections (b) and (c). These standards and procedures—

(A) shall provide for the Secretary or other department official (such as the Assistant Secretary for Housing) to make the determination to impose a penalty;

(B) shall provide for the imposition of a penalty only after the mortgagor has been given an opportunity for a hearing on the record; and

(C) may provide for review by the Secretary of any determination or order, or interlocutory ruling, arising from a hearing.

(2) Final orders

If no hearing is requested within 15 days of receipt of the notice of opportunity for hearing, the imposition of the penalty shall constitute a final and unappealable determination. If the Secretary reviews the determination or order, the Secretary may affirm, modify, or reverse that determination or order. If the Secretary does not review the determination or order within 90 days of the issuance of the determination or order, the determination or order shall be final.

(3) Factors in determining amount of penalty

In determining the amount of a penalty under subsection (b) or (c), consideration shall be given to such factors as the gravity of the offense, any history of prior offenses (including offenses occurring before December 15, 1989), ability to pay the penalty, injury to the tenants, injury to the public, benefits received, deterrence of future violations, and such other factors as the Secretary may determine in regulations to be appropriate.

(4) Reviewability of imposition of penalty

The Secretary's determination or order imposing a penalty under subsection (b) or (c) shall not be subject to review, except as provided in subsection (e).

(e) Judicial review of agency determination

(1) In general

After exhausting all administrative remedies established by the Secretary under subsection (d)(1), a mortgagor against whom the Secretary has imposed a civil money penalty under subsection (b) or (c) may obtain a review of the penalty and such ancillary issues as may be addressed in the notice of determination to impose a penalty under subsection (d)(1)(A) in the appropriate court of appeals of the United States, by filing in such court, within 20 days after the entry of such order or determination, a written petition praying that the Secretary's order or determination be modified or be set aside in whole or in part.

(2) Objections not raised in hearing

The court shall not consider any objection that was not raised in the hearing conducted pursuant to subsection (d)(1) unless a demonstration is made of extraordinary circumstances causing the failure to raise the objection. If any party demonstrates to the satisfaction of the court that additional evidence not presented at such hearing is material and that there were reasonable grounds for the failure to present such evidence at the hearing, the court shall remand the matter to the Secretary for consideration of such additional evidence.

(3) Scope of review

The decisions, findings, and determinations of the Secretary shall be reviewed pursuant to section 706 of title 5.

(4) Order to pay penalty

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any such review, the court shall have the power to order payment of the penalty imposed by the Secretary.

(f) Action to collect penalty

If a mortgagor fails to comply with the Secretary's determination or order imposing a civil money penalty under subsection (b) or (c), after the determination or order is no longer subject to review as provided by subsections (d)(1) and (e), the Secretary may request the Attorney General of the United States to bring an action in an appropriate United States district court to obtain a monetary judgment against the mortgagor and such other relief as may be available. The monetary judgment may, in the court's discretion, include the attorneys fees and other expenses incurred by the United States in connection with the action. In an action under this subsection, the validity and appropriateness of the Secretary's determination or order imposing the penalty shall not be subject to review.

(g) Settlement by Secretary

The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit any civil money penalty which may be, or has been, imposed under this section.

(h) "Knowingly" defined

The term "knowingly" means having actual knowledge of or acting with deliberate ignorance of or reckless disregard for the prohibitions under this section.

(i) Regulations

The Secretary shall issue such regulations as the Secretary deems appropriate to implement this section.

(j) Deposit of penalties in insurance funds

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all civil money penalties collected under this section shall be deposited in the fund established under section 1715z-1a(j) of this title.

(Pub. L. 86-372, title II, §202a, as added Pub. L. 101-235, title I, §109(a), Dec. 15, 1989, 103 Stat. 2007.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Housing Act of 1959, and not as part of the National Housing Act which comprises this chapter.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 101-235, title I, §109(b), Dec. 15, 1989, 103 Stat. 2011, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [enacting this section] shall apply only with respect to violations referred to in the amendment that occur on or after the effective date of this section [Dec. 15, 1989]."

§ 1701q-2. Grants for conversion of elderly housing to assisted living facilities and other purposes

(a) Grant authority

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may make grants in accordance with this