

1996—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 104-316 substituted “maintain an integral set of accounts which may be audited by the General Accounting Office as provided by chapter 91 of title 31.” for “maintain an integral set of accounts which shall be audited annually by the General Accounting Office in accordance with the principles and procedures applicable to commercial transactions as provided by chapter 91 of title 31, and no other audit shall be required.”

1984—Subsec. (a)(1), (2). Pub. L. 98-479 substituted “chapter 91 of title 31” for “the Government Corporations Control Act, as amended”.

**§ 1437i. Obligations of public housing agencies; contestability; full faith and credit of United States pledged as security; tax exemption**

(a) Obligations issued by a public housing agency in connection with low-income housing projects which (1) are secured (A) by a pledge of a loan under any agreement between such public housing agency and the Secretary, or (B) by a pledge of annual contributions under an annual contributions contract between such public housing agency and the Secretary, or (C) by a pledge of both annual contributions under an annual contributions contract and a loan under an agreement between such public housing agency and the Secretary, and (2) bear, or are accompanied by, a certificate of the Secretary that such obligations are so secured, shall be incontestable in the hands of a bearer and the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the payment of all amounts agreed to be paid by the Secretary as security for such obligations.

(b) Except as provided in section 1437c(g) of this title, obligations, including interest thereon, issued by public housing agencies in connection with low-income housing projects shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States whether paid by such agencies or by the Secretary. The income derived by such agencies from such projects shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, title I, §11, as added Pub. L. 93-383, title II, §201(a), Aug. 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 667; amended Pub. L. 97-35, title III, §322(c), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 402; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 100-358, §5, June 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 681; Pub. L. 101-625, title V, §572(2), Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4236.)

**Editorial Notes**

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 11 of act Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, 50 Stat. 893, as amended, authorized capital grants to public housing agencies in assistance of low rentals and was classified to section 1411 of this title, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 93-383.

**AMENDMENTS**

1990—Pub. L. 101-625 substituted “low-income housing” for “lower income housing” wherever appearing.

1981—Pub. L. 97-35 substituted reference to lower income for reference to low-income wherever appearing.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-35 effective Oct. 1, 1981, see section 371 of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3701 of Title 12, Banks and Banking.

**§ 1437j. Labor standards and community service requirement**

**(a) Payment of wages prevailing in locality**

Any contract for loans, contributions, sale, or lease pursuant to this chapter shall contain a provision requiring that not less than the wages prevailing in the locality, as determined or adopted (subsequent to a determination under applicable State or local law) by the Secretary, shall be paid to all architects, technical engineers, draftsmen, and technicians employed in the development, and all maintenance laborers and mechanics employed in the operation, of the low-income housing project involved; and shall also contain a provision that not less than the wages prevailing in the locality, as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to sections 3141-3144, 3146, and 3147 of title 40, shall be paid to all laborers and mechanics employed in the development of the project involved (including a project with nine or more units assisted under section 1437f of this title, where the public housing agency or the Secretary and the builder or sponsor enter into agreement for such use before construction or rehabilitation is commenced), and the Secretary shall require certification as to compliance with the provisions of this section prior to making any payment under such contract.

**(b) Exception for volunteers**

Subsection (a) and the provisions relating to wages (pursuant to subsection (a)) in any contract for loans, annual contributions, sale, or lease pursuant to this chapter, shall not apply to any individual that—

(1) performs services for which the individual volunteered;

(2)(A) does not receive compensation for such services; or

(B) is paid expenses, reasonable benefits, or a nominal fee for such services; and

(3) is not otherwise employed at any time in the construction work.

**(c) Community service requirement**

**(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraph (2) and notwithstanding any other provision of law, each adult resident of a public housing project shall—

(A) contribute 8 hours per month of community service (not including political activities) within the community in which that adult resides; or

(B) participate in an economic self-sufficiency program (as that term is defined in subsection (g)) for 8 hours per month.

**(2) Exemptions**

The Secretary shall provide an exemption from the applicability of paragraph (1) for any individual who—

(A) is 62 years of age or older;

(B) is a blind or disabled individual, as defined under section 216(i)(1) or 1614 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 416(i)(1); 1382c), and who is unable to comply with this section, or is a primary caretaker of such individual;

(C) is engaged in a work activity (as such term is defined in section 407(d) of the Social

Security Act (42 U.S.C. 607(d)), as in effect on and after July 1, 1997);<sup>1</sup>

(D) meets the requirements for being exempted from having to engage in a work activity under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or under any other welfare program of the State in which the public housing agency is located, including a State-administered welfare-to-work program; or

(E) is in a family receiving assistance under a State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or under any other welfare program of the State in which the public housing agency is located, including a State-administered welfare-to-work program, and has not been found by the State or other administering entity to be in noncompliance with such program.

### **(3) Annual determinations**

#### **(A) Requirement**

For each public housing resident subject to the requirement under paragraph (1), the public housing agency shall, 30 days before the expiration of each lease term of the resident under section 1437d(l)(1) of this title, review and determine the compliance of the resident with the requirement under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

#### **(B) Due process**

Such determinations shall be made in accordance with the principles of due process and on a nondiscriminatory basis.

#### **(C) Noncompliance**

If an agency determines that a resident subject to the requirement under paragraph (1) has not complied with the requirement, the agency—

(i) shall notify the resident—

(I) of such noncompliance;

(II) that the determination of noncompliance is subject to the administrative grievance procedure under subsection (k);<sup>2</sup> and

(III) that, unless the resident enters into an agreement under clause (ii) of this subparagraph, the resident's lease will not be renewed; and

(ii) may not renew or extend the resident's lease upon expiration of the lease term and shall take such action as is necessary to terminate the tenancy of the household, unless the agency enters into an agreement, before the expiration of the lease term, with the resident providing for the resident to cure any noncompliance with the requirement under paragraph (1), by participating in an economic self-sufficiency program for or contributing to community service as many additional hours as the resident needs to comply in the aggregate with such requirement over the 12-month term of the lease.

<sup>1</sup>So in original. Probably should be only one closing parenthesis.

<sup>2</sup>See References in Text note below.

#### **(4) Ineligibility for occupancy for noncompliance**

A public housing agency may not renew or extend any lease, or provide any new lease, for a dwelling unit in public housing for any household that includes an adult member who was subject to the requirement under paragraph (1) and failed to comply with the requirement.

#### **(5) Inclusion in plan**

Each public housing agency shall include in its public housing agency plan a detailed description of the manner in which the agency intends to implement and administer this subsection.

#### **(6) Geographic location**

The requirement under paragraph (1) may include community service or participation in an economic self-sufficiency program performed at a location not owned by the public housing agency.

#### **(7) Prohibition against replacement of employees**

In carrying out this subsection, a public housing agency may not—

(A) substitute community service or participation in an economic self-sufficiency program, as described in paragraph (1), for work performed by a public housing employee; or

(B) supplant a job at any location at which community work requirements are fulfilled.

#### **(8) Third-party coordinating**

A public housing agency may administer the community service requirement under this subsection directly, through a resident organization, or through a contractor having experience in administering volunteer-based community service programs within the service area of the public housing agency. The Secretary may establish qualifications for such organizations and contractors.

#### **(d) Treatment of income changes resulting from welfare program requirements**

##### **(1) Covered family**

For purposes of this subsection, the term "covered family" means a family that (A) receives benefits for welfare or public assistance from a State or other public agency under a program for which the Federal, State, or local law relating to the program requires, as a condition of eligibility for assistance under the program, participation of a member of the family in an economic self-sufficiency program, and (B) resides in a public housing dwelling unit or is provided tenant-based assistance under section 1437f of this title.

##### **(2) Decreases in income for failure to comply**

###### **(A) In general**

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1437a(a) of this title (relating to family rental contributions) or paragraph (4) or (5) of section 1437a(b) of this title (relating to definition of income and adjusted income), if the welfare or public assistance benefits of a covered family are reduced under a Federal,

State, or local law regarding such an assistance program because of any failure of any member of the family to comply with the conditions under the assistance program requiring participation in an economic self-sufficiency program or imposing a work activities requirement, the amount required to be paid by the family as a monthly contribution toward rent may not be decreased, during the period of the reduction, as a result of any decrease in the income of the family (to the extent that the decrease in income is a result of the benefits reduction).

**(B) No reduction based on time limit for assistance**

For purposes of this paragraph, a reduction in benefits as a result of the expiration of a lifetime time limit for a family receiving welfare or public assistance benefits shall not be considered to be a failure to comply with the conditions under the assistance program requiring participation in an economic self-sufficiency program or imposing a work activities requirement. This paragraph shall apply beginning on October 21, 1998.

**(3) Effect of fraud**

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1437a(a) of this title (relating to family rental contributions) or paragraph (4) or (5) of section 1437a(b) of this title (relating to definition of income and adjusted income), if the welfare or public assistance benefits of a covered family are reduced because of an act of fraud by a member of the family under the law or program, the amount required to be paid by the covered family as a monthly contribution toward rent may not be decreased, during the period of the reduction, as a result of any decrease in the income of the family (to the extent that the decrease in income is a result of the benefits reduction). This paragraph shall apply beginning on October 21, 1998.

**(4) Notice**

Paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not apply to any covered family before the public housing agency providing assistance under this chapter on behalf of the family obtains written notification from the relevant welfare or public assistance agency specifying that the family's benefits have been reduced because of noncompliance with economic self-sufficiency program or work activities requirements or fraud, and the level of such reduction.

**(5) Occupancy rights**

This subsection may not be construed to authorize any public housing agency to establish any time limit on tenancy in a public housing dwelling unit or on receipt of tenant-based assistance under section 1437f of this title.

**(6) Review**

Any covered family residing in public housing that is affected by the operation of this subsection shall have the right to review the determination under this subsection through the administrative grievance procedure established pursuant to section 1437d(k) of this title for the public housing agency.

**(7) Cooperation agreements for economic self-sufficiency activities**

**(A) Requirement**

A public housing agency providing public housing dwelling units or tenant-based assistance under section 1437f of this title for covered families shall make its best efforts to enter into such cooperation agreements, with State, local, and other agencies providing assistance to covered families under welfare or public assistance programs, as may be necessary, to provide for such agencies to transfer information to facilitate administration of subsection (c) and paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection and other information regarding rents, income, and assistance that may assist a public housing agency or welfare or public assistance agency in carrying out its functions.

**(B) Contents**

A public housing agency shall seek to include in a cooperation agreement under this paragraph requirements and provisions designed to target assistance under welfare and public assistance programs to families residing in public housing projects and families receiving tenant-based assistance under section 1437f of this title, which may include providing for economic self-sufficiency services within such housing, providing for services designed to meet the unique employment-related needs of residents of such housing and recipients of such assistance, providing for placement of workfare positions on-site in such housing, and such other elements as may be appropriate.

**(C) Confidentiality**

This paragraph may not be construed to authorize any release of information prohibited by, or in contravention of, any other provision of Federal, State, or local law.

**(e) Lease provisions**

A public housing agency shall incorporate into leases under section 1437d(l) of this title and into agreements for the provision of tenant-based assistance under section 1437f of this title, provisions incorporating the conditions under subsection (d).

**(f) Treatment of income**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in determining the income of a family who resides in public housing or receives tenant-based assistance under section 1437f of this title, a public housing agency shall consider any decrease in the income of a family that results from the reduction of any welfare or public assistance benefits received by the family under any Federal, State, or local law regarding a program for such assistance if the family (or a member thereof, as applicable) has complied with the conditions for receiving such assistance and is unable to obtain employment notwithstanding such compliance.

**(g) Definition**

For purposes of this section, the term "economic self-sufficiency program" means any program designed to encourage, assist, train, or fa-

cilitate the economic independence of participants and their families or to provide work for participants, including programs for job training, employment counseling, work placement, basic skills training, education, workfare, financial or household management, apprenticeship, or other activities as the Secretary may provide.

(Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, title I, §12, as added Pub. L. 93-383, title II, §201(a), Aug. 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 667; amended Pub. L. 97-35, title III, §322(c), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 402; Pub. L. 100-242, title I, §112(b)(5), Feb. 5, 1988, 101 Stat. 1824; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 100-358, §5, June 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 681; Pub. L. 101-625, title V, §572(2), title IX, §955(b), Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4236, 4421; Pub. L. 105-276, title V, §512(a), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2539.)

### Editorial Notes

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Social Security Act, referred to in subsec. (c)(2)(D), (E), is act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, 49 Stat. 620, as amended. Part A of title IV of the Act is classified generally to part A (§601 et seq.) of subchapter IV of chapter 7 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1305 of this title and Tables.

Subsection (k), referred to in subsec. (c)(3)(C)(i)(II), probably means section 1437d(k) of this title, which relates to administrative grievance procedures. This section does not contain a subsec. (k).

#### CODIFICATION

In subsec. (a), “sections 3141-3144, 3146, and 3147 of title 40” substituted for “the Davis-Bacon Act (49 Stat. 1011)” on authority of Pub. L. 107-217, §5(c), Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1303, the first section of which enacted Title 40, Public Buildings, Property, and Works.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 12 of act Sept. 1, 1937, ch. 896, 50 Stat. 894, as amended, authorized the disposal of low-rent housing projects transferred to or acquired by the Authority and was classified to section 1412 of this title, prior to the general revision of this chapter by Pub. L. 93-383.

#### AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-276, §512(a)(1), inserted “and community service requirement” after “Labor standards” in section catchline.

Subsecs. (c) to (g). Pub. L. 105-276, §512(a)(2), added subsecs. (c) to (g).

1990—Pub. L. 101-625, §955(b), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

Pub. L. 101-625, §572(2), substituted “low-income housing” for “lower income housing”.

1988—Pub. L. 100-242 struck out “annual” before “contributions”.

1981—Pub. L. 97-35 substituted reference to lower income for reference to low-income.

### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

#### 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 1990 AMENDMENT

Section 955(d) of Pub. L. 101-625 provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this sec-

tion, section 5310 of this title, and section 1701q of Title 12, Banks and Banking] shall apply to any volunteer services provided before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 28, 1990], except that such amendments may not be construed to require the repayment of any wages paid before the date of the enactment of this Act for services provided before such date.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1981 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-35 effective Oct. 1, 1981, see section 371 of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3701 of Title 12, Banks and Banking.

### § 1437j-1. Repealed. Pub. L. 105-276, title V, § 582(a)(5), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2643

Section, Pub. L. 97-35, title III, §329A, Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 409, related to payment for development managers of projects assisted under this chapter.

### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective and applicable beginning upon Oct. 1, 1999, except as otherwise provided, with provision that Secretary may implement the repeal before such date, and with savings provision, see section 503 of Pub. L. 105-276, set out as an Effective Date of 1998 Amendment note under section 1437 of this title.

### § 1437k. Consortia, joint ventures, affiliates, and subsidiaries of public housing agencies

#### (a) Consortia

##### (1) In general

Any 2 or more public housing agencies may participate in a consortium for the purpose of administering any or all of the housing programs of those public housing agencies in accordance with this section.

##### (2) Effect

With respect to any consortium described in paragraph (1)—

(A) any assistance made available under this subchapter to each of the public housing agencies participating in the consortium shall be paid to the consortium; and

(B) all planning and reporting requirements imposed upon each public housing agency participating in the consortium with respect to the programs operated by the consortium shall be consolidated.

#### (3) Restrictions

##### (A) Agreement

Each consortium described in paragraph (1) shall be formed and operated in accordance with a consortium agreement, and shall be subject to the requirements of a joint public housing agency plan, which shall be submitted by the consortium in accordance with section 1437c-1 of this title.

##### (B) Minimum requirements

The Secretary shall specify minimum requirements relating to the formation and operation of consortia and the minimum contents of consortium agreements under this paragraph.

#### (b) Joint ventures

##### (1) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public housing agency, in accordance with the public housing agency plan, may—