

‘Secretary’) shall, not later than the expiration of the 6-month period beginning upon after [sic] the date of the enactment of this Act [July 30, 2008], implement administrative and procedural changes to expedite approval of multifamily housing projects under the jurisdiction of the Department of Housing and Urban Development that meet the requirements of the Secretary for such approvals.

“(2) PROJECTS.—The multifamily housing projects referred to in paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) projects for which assistance is provided by such Department in conjunction with any low-income housing tax credits under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 [26 U.S.C. 42] or tax-exempt housing bonds; and

“(B) existing public housing projects and assisted housing projects, for which approval of the Secretary is necessary for transactions, in conjunction with any such low-income housing tax credits or tax-exempt housing bonds, involving the preservation or rehabilitation of the project.

“(3) CHANGES.—The administrative and procedural changes referred to in paragraph (1) shall include all actions necessary to carry out paragraph (1), which may include—

“(A) improving the efficiency of approval procedures;

“(B) simplifying approval requirements,

“(C) establishing time deadlines or target deadlines for required approvals;

“(D) modifying division of approval authority between field and national offices;

“(E) improving outreach to project sponsors regarding information that is required to be submitted for such approvals;

“(F) requesting additional funding for increasing staff, if necessary; and

“(G) any other actions which would expedite approvals.

Any such changes shall be made in a manner that provides for full compliance with any existing requirements under law or regulation that are designed to protect families receiving public and assisted housing assistance, including income targeting, rent, and fair housing provisions, and shall also comply with requirements regarding environmental review and protection and wages paid to laborers.

“(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult with the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service and take such actions as are appropriate in conjunction with such consultation to simplify the coordination of rules, regulations, forms, and approval requirements for multifamily housing projects projects [sic] for which assistance is provided by such Department in conjunction with any low-income housing tax credits under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 [26 U.S.C. 42] or tax-exempt housing bonds.

“(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In implementing the changes required under this section, the Secretary shall solicit recommendations regarding such changes from project owners and sponsors, investors and stakeholders in housing tax credits, State and local housing finance agencies, public housing agencies, tenant advocates, and other stakeholders in such projects.

“(d) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the 9-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [July 30, 2008], the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate that—

“(1) identifies the actions taken by the Secretary to comply with this section;

“(2) includes information regarding any resulting improvements in the expedited approval for multifamily housing projects;

“(3) identifies recommendations made pursuant to subsection (c);

“(4) identifies actions taken by the Secretary to implement the provisions in the amendments made by sections 2834 and 2835 of this Act [enacting this

section and sections 1437z-8 and 11403f-1 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and amending sections 1701q and 1715r of this title and sections 1437f, 3545, 11403g, 11403h, 11404, 11405, 11405b, 11406, 11407, and 11407b of Title 42]; and

“(5) makes recommendations for any legislative changes that are needed to facilitate prompt approval of assistance for such projects.”

### § 1715t. Voluntary termination of insurance

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter and with respect to any loan or mortgage heretofore or hereafter insured under this chapter, except under section 1703 of this title and except as specified under section 1715z-15 of this title and subtitle B of the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987,<sup>1</sup> the Secretary is authorized to terminate any insurance contract upon request by the borrower or mortgagor and the financial institution or mortgagee and upon payment of such termination charge as the Secretary determines to be equitable, taking into consideration the necessity of protecting the various insurance Funds. Upon such termination, borrowers and mortgagors and financial institutions and mortgagees shall be entitled to the rights, if any, to which they would be entitled under this chapter if the insurance contract were terminated by payment in full of the insured loan or mortgage.

(June 27, 1934, ch. 847, title II, § 229, as added Pub. L. 86-372, title I, § 113, Sept. 23, 1959, 73 Stat. 662; amended Pub. L. 87-70, title VI, § 612(*l*), June 30, 1961, 75 Stat. 183; Pub. L. 89-117, title XI, § 1108(k), Aug. 10, 1965, 79 Stat. 505; Pub. L. 90-19, § 1(a)(3), May 25, 1967, 81 Stat. 17; Pub. L. 101-235, title II, § 202(d)(2), Dec. 15, 1989, 103 Stat. 2037.)

### Editorial Notes

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning act June 27, 1934, ch. 847, 48 Stat. 1246, which is classified principally to this chapter (§ 1701 et seq.). For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

The Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987, referred to in text, is title II of Pub. L. 100-242, Feb. 5, 1988, 101 Stat. 1877, which, as amended by Pub. L. 101-625, is known as the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990. Subtitle B of title II, which was formerly set out as a note under section 1715f of this title and which amended section 1715z-6 of this title, was amended generally by Pub. L. 101-625 and is classified generally to subchapter I (§ 4101 et seq.) of chapter 42 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4101 of this title and Tables.

#### AMENDMENTS

1989—Pub. L. 101-235 inserted “and except as specified under section 1715z-15 of this title and subtitle B of the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987,” after “section 1703 of this title”.

1967—Pub. L. 90-19 substituted “Secretary” for “Commissioner” wherever appearing.

1965—Pub. L. 89-117 struck out “and Accounts” after “various Insurance Funds”.

1961—Pub. L. 87-70 amended section generally, authorizing voluntary termination of insurance contracts with respect to loans insured under this chapter.

<sup>1</sup> So in original.

**§ 1715u. Authority to assist mortgagors in default****(a) Loss mitigation**

Upon default or imminent default, as defined by the Secretary<sup>1</sup> of any mortgage insured under this subchapter, mortgagees shall engage in loss mitigation actions for the purpose of providing an alternative to foreclosure (including but not limited to actions such as special forbearance, loan modification, preforeclosure sale, support for borrower housing counseling, subordinate lien resolution, borrower incentives, and deeds in lieu of foreclosure, as required, but not including assignment of mortgages to the Secretary under section 1710(a)(1)(A) of this title) or subsection (c),<sup>2</sup> as provided in regulations by the Secretary.

**(b) Payment of partial claim****(1) Establishment of program**

The Secretary may establish a program for payment of a partial claim to a mortgagee that agrees to apply the claim amount to payment of a mortgage on a 1- to 4-family residence that is in default or faces imminent default, as defined by the Secretary.

**(2) Payments and exceptions**

Any payment of a partial claim under the program established in paragraph (1) to a mortgagee shall be made in the sole discretion of the Secretary and on terms and conditions acceptable to the Secretary, except that—

(A) the amount of the payment shall be in an amount determined by the Secretary, not to exceed an amount equivalent to 30 percent of the unpaid principal balance of the mortgage and any costs that are approved by the Secretary;

(B) the amount of the partial claim payment shall first be applied to any arrearage on the mortgage, and may also be applied to achieve principal reduction;

(C) the mortgagor shall agree to repay the amount of the insurance claim to the Secretary upon terms and conditions acceptable to the Secretary;

(D) the Secretary may permit compensation to the mortgagee for lost income on monthly payments, due to a reduction in the interest rate charged on the mortgage;

(E) expenses related to the partial claim or modification may not be charged to the borrower;

(F) loans may be modified to extend the term of the mortgage to a maximum of 40 years from the date of the modification; and

(G) the Secretary may permit incentive payments to the mortgagee, on the borrower's behalf, based on successful performance of a modified mortgage, which shall be used to reduce the amount of principal indebtedness.

**(3) Payments in connection with certain activities**

The Secretary may pay the mortgagee, from the appropriate insurance fund, in connection

with any activities that the mortgagee is required to undertake concerning repayment by the mortgagor of the amount owed to the Secretary.

**(c) Assignment and loan modification****(1) Assignment****(A) Program authority**

The Secretary may establish a program for assignment to the Secretary, upon request of the mortgagee, of a mortgage on a 1- to 4-family residence insured under this chapter.

**(B) Program requirements**

The Secretary may accept assignment of a mortgage under this paragraph only if—

(i) the mortgage was in default or facing imminent default, as defined by the Secretary;

(ii) the mortgagee has modified the mortgage to cure the default and provide for mortgage payments within the reasonable ability of the mortgagor to pay, at interest rates not exceeding current market interest rates; and

(iii) the Secretary arranges for servicing of the assigned mortgage by a mortgagee (which may include the assigning mortgagee) through procedures that the Secretary has determined to be in the best interests of the appropriate insurance fund.

**(C) Payment of insurance benefits**

Upon accepting assignment of a mortgage under this paragraph, the Secretary may pay insurance benefits to the mortgagee from the appropriate insurance fund, in an amount that the Secretary determines to be appropriate, not to exceed the amount necessary to compensate the mortgagee for the assignment and any losses and expenses resulting from the mortgage modification.

**(2) Assignment and loan modification****(A) Authority**

The Secretary may encourage loan modifications for eligible delinquent mortgages or mortgages facing imminent default, as defined by the Secretary, through the payment of insurance benefits and assignment of the mortgage to the Secretary and the subsequent modification of the terms of the mortgage according to a loan modification approved by the mortgagee.

**(B) Payment of benefits and assignment**

In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary may pay insurance benefits for a mortgage, in the amount determined in accordance with section 1710(a)(5) of this title, without reduction for any amounts modified, but only upon the assignment, transfer, and delivery to the Secretary of all rights, interest, claims, evidence, and records with respect to the mortgage specified in clauses (i) through (iv) of section 1710(a)(1)(A) of this title.

**(C) Disposition**

After modification of a mortgage pursuant to this paragraph, the Secretary may provide insurance under this subchapter for the

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by a comma.

<sup>2</sup> So in original. Probably should be "section 1710(a)(1)(A) of this title or subsection (c))."