CHAPTER 69.
[S. B. 185.]

RURAL HOUSING.

An Act authorizing housing authorities created for counties to provide housing for farmers of low income, amending chapter 23, Laws of 1939, by adding thereto three new sections to follow section 23, to be known as sections 23a, 23b, and 23c and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Section 1. Chapter 23, Laws of 1939, is amended by adding thereto a new section to follow section 23, to be known as section 23a (section 6889-23a, Remington's Revised Statutes; section 2746-123a Pierce's Code) which shall read as follows:

Section 23a. RURAL HOUSING PROJECTS. Housing authorities created for counties are specifically empowered and authorized to borrow money, accept grants and exercise their other powers to provide housing for farmers of low income as herein defined. In providing such housing, such housing authorities shall not be subject to the tenant selection limitations provided in clause (c) of section 10 of the Housing Authorities Law, chapter 23, Laws of 1939, (section 6889-10, Remington's Revised Statutes; section 2746-110, Pierce's Code). In connection with such projects, such housing authorities may enter into such leases or purchase agreements, accept such conveyances and rent or sell dwellings forming part of such projects to or for farmers of low income, as such housing authority deems necessary in order to assure the achievement of the objectives of this act. Such leases, agreements or conveyances may include such covenants as the housing authority deems appropriate regarding such dwellings and the tracts of land described in any such instrument, which covenants shall be deemed to run with the
land where the housing authority deems it necessary and the parties to such instrument so stipulate. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting any other powers of any housing authority.

Sec. 2. Chapter 23, Laws of 1939, is amended by adding thereto a new section to follow section 23 and section 23a, to be known as 23b (section 6889-23b, Remington's Revised Statutes; section 2746-123b, Pierce's Code) which shall read as follows:

Section 23b. HOUSING APPLICATIONS BY FARMERS. The owner of any farm operated, or worked upon, by farmers of low income in need of safe and sanitary housing may file an application with a housing authority of a county requesting that it provide for a safe and sanitary dwelling or dwellings for occupancy by such farmers of low income. Such applications shall be received and examined by housing authorities in connection with the formulation of projects or programs to provide housing for farmers of low income.

Sec. 3. Chapter 23, Laws of 1939, is amended by adding thereto a new section to follow section 23, section 23a and section 23b, to be known as section 23c (section 6889-23c, Remington's Revised Statutes; section 2746-123c, Pierce's Code) which shall read as follows:

Section 23c. FARMERS OF LOW INCOME. "Farmers of low income" shall mean persons or families who at the time of their admission to occupancy in a dwelling of a housing authority: (1) live under unsafe or insanitary housing conditions; (2) derive their principal income from operating or working upon a farm; and (3) had an aggregate average annual net income for the three years preceding their admission that was less than the amount determined by the housing authority to be necessary,
within its area of operation, to enable them, without financial assistance, to obtain decent, safe and sanitary housing, without overcrowding.

**Sec. 4.** The powers conferred by this act shall be in addition and supplemental to the powers conferred by any other law, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting any other powers of any housing authority.

**Sec. 5.** Notwithstanding any other evidence of legislative intent it is hereby declared to be the controlling legislative intent that if any provision of this act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid, the remainder of the act and the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

**Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate February 20, 1941.
Passed the House March 7, 1941.
Approved by the Governor March 14, 1941.