

as are so provided for by such district school board for pupils attending public schools.

Passed the House February 20, 1941.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1941.

Approved by the Governor March 8, 1941.

CHAPTER 54.

[S. B. 178.]

HOUSING FOR THOSE ENGAGED IN DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.

AN ACT to authorize housing authorities to undertake the development or administration of projects to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities who would not otherwise be able to secure such dwellings within the vicinity thereof; to limit the initiation of the development of such projects until December 31, 1943; to authorize housing authorities to cooperate with or act as agent of the federal government in the development and administration of such projects of the federal government, to acquire or lease such projects and to sell certain projects to the federal government; to authorize public bodies to assist such projects of housing authorities and of the federal government; to make obligations issued for such projects of housing authorities legal investments and security for deposits; to declare valid all bonds, notes and obligations of housing authorities issued for projects heretofore undertaken to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities; to make payments for services, works and improvements, and to declare an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby found and declared that the national defense program involves large increases in the military forces and personnel in this state, a great increase in the number of workers in already established manufacturing centers and the bringing of a large number of workers and their

Purpose.

families to new centers of defense industries in the state; that there is an acute shortage of safe and sanitary dwellings available to such persons and their families in this state which impedes the national defense program; that it is imperative that action be taken immediately to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for such persons to enable the rapid expansion of national defense activities in this state and to avoid a large labor turnover in defense industries which would seriously hamper their production; that the provisions hereinafter enacted are necessary to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities which otherwise would not be provided at this time; and that such provisions are for the public use and purpose of facilitating the national defense program in this state. It is further declared to be the purpose of this act to authorize housing authorities to do any and all things necessary or desirable to secure the financial aid of the Federal Government, or to cooperate with or act as agent of the Federal Government, in the expeditious development and the administration of projects to assure the availability when needed of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities.

Aid to
national
defense.

Defense
workers
defined.

SEC. 2. (a) Persons engaged in national defense activities, as used in this act, shall include: enlisted men in the military and naval services of the United States and employees of the war and navy departments assigned to duty at military or naval reservations, posts or bases; and workers engaged or to be engaged in industries connected with and essential to the national defense program; and shall include the families of the aforesaid persons who are living with them.

Persons of
low income
defined.

(b) Persons of low income, as used in this act, shall mean persons or families who lack the amount

of income which is necessary (as determined by the housing authority undertaking the housing project) to enable them, without financial assistance, to live in decent, safe and sanitary dwellings, without overcrowding.

(c) Development as used in this act, shall mean any and all undertakings necessary for the planning, land acquisition, demolition, financing, construction or equipment in connection with a project (including the negotiation or award of contracts therefor), and shall include the acquisition of any project (in whole or in part) from the federal government.

Development defined.

(d) Administration, as used in this act, shall mean any and all undertakings necessary for management, operation or maintenance, in connection with any project, and shall include the leasing of any project (in whole or in part) from the Federal Government.

Administration defined.

(e) Federal Government, as used in this act, shall mean the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the United States of America.

Federal Government defined.

(f) The development of a project shall be deemed to be initiated, within the meaning of this act, if a housing authority has issued any bonds, notes or other obligations with respect to financing the development of such project of the authority, or has contracted with the Federal Government with respect to the exercise of powers hereunder in the development of such project of the Federal Government for which an allocation of funds has been made prior to December 31, 1943.

Commencement of project.

(g) Housing authority, as used in this act, shall mean any housing authority established or hereafter established pursuant to the Housing Authorities Law, chapter 23, Laws of 1939, and any amendments thereto.

Housing authority defined.

Housing authority to develop projects.

SEC. 3. Any housing authority may undertake the development and administration of projects to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities whom the housing authority determines would not otherwise be able to secure safe and sanitary dwellings within the vicinity thereof, but no housing authority shall initiate the development of any such project pursuant to this act after December 31, 1943.

Limit of act.

Powers of housing authority.

SEC. 4. In the ownership, development or administration of such projects, a housing authority shall have all the rights, powers, privileges and immunities that such authority has under any provision of law relating to the ownership, development or administration of slum clearance and housing projects for persons of low income, in the same manner as though all the provisions of law applicable to slum clearance and housing projects for persons of low income were applicable to projects developed or administered to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities as provided in this act, and housing projects developed or administered hereunder shall constitute housing projects under the Housing Authorities Law, chapter 23, Laws of 1939, as that term is used therein: *Provided*, That during the period (herein called the "national defense period") that a housing authority finds (which finding shall be conclusive in any suit, action or proceeding) that within its area of operation (as defined in the Housing Authorities Law), or any part thereof, there is an acute shortage of safe and sanitary dwellings which impedes the national defense program in this state and that the necessary safe and sanitary dwellings would not otherwise be provided when needed for persons engaged in national defense activities, any project developed or administered by such hous-

Slum clearance.

National defense period.

Shortage of dwellings.

Condition impeding program.

ing authority (or by any housing authority cooperating with it) in such area pursuant to this act, with the financial aid of the Federal Government (or as agent for the Federal Government as hereinafter provided), shall not be subject to the limitations provided in section 9 and section 10 of the Housing Authorities Law: *And provided further*, That, during the national defense period, a housing authority may make payments in such amounts as it finds necessary or desirable for any services, facilities, works, privileges or improvements furnished for or in connection with any such projects. After the national defense period, any such projects owned and administered by a housing authority shall be administered for the purposes and in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Authorities Law.

Limitations not applicable during defense period.

SEC. 5. A housing authority may exercise any or all of its powers for the purpose of cooperating with, or acting as agent for, the Federal Government in the development or administration of projects by the Federal Government to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities and may undertake the development or administration of any such project for the Federal Government. In order to assure the availability of safe and sanitary housing for persons engaged in national defense activities, a housing authority may sell (in whole or in part) to the Federal Government any housing project developed for persons of low income but not yet occupied by such persons; such sale shall be at such price and upon such terms as the housing authority shall prescribe and shall include provision for the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities of the authority relating to such project.

To cooperate with government.

May sell to government.

SEC. 6. Any state public body, as defined in the Housing Cooperation Law, chapter 24, Laws of 1939, and any amendments thereto shall have the same

Defense powers same as clearance.

rights and powers to cooperate with housing authorities, or with the Federal Government, with respect to the development or administration of projects to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities that such state public body has pursuant to such law for the purpose of assisting the development or administration of slum clearance or housing projects for persons of low income.

Housing obligations to be security for public deposits.

SEC. 7. Bonds or other obligations issued by a housing authority for a project developed or administered pursuant to this act shall be security for public deposits and legal investments to the same extent and for the same persons, institutions, associations, corporations, bodies and officers as bonds or other obligations issued pursuant to the Housing Authorities Law for the development of a slum clearance or housing project for persons of low income.

Prior obligations validated.

SEC. 8. All bonds, notes, contracts, agreements and obligations of housing authorities heretofore issued or entered into relating to financing or undertaking (including cooperating with or acting as agent of the Federal Government in) the development or administration of any project to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities, are hereby validated and declared legal in all respects, notwithstanding any defect or irregularity therein or any want of statutory authority.

Independent authorization.

SEC. 9. This act shall constitute an independent authorization for a housing authority to undertake the development or administration of projects to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities as provided in this act and for a housing authority to cooperate with, or act as agent for, the

Federal Government in the development or administration of similar projects by the Federal Government. In acting under this authorization, a housing authority shall not be subject to any limitations, restrictions or requirements of other laws (except those relating to land acquisition) prescribing the procedure or action to be taken in the development or administration of any public works, including slum clearance and housing projects for persons of low income or undertakings or projects of municipal or public corporations or political subdivisions or agencies of the state. A housing authority may do any and all things necessary or desirable to cooperate with, or act as agent for, the Federal Government, or to secure financial aid, in the expeditious development or in the administration of projects to assure the availability of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons engaged in national defense activities and to effectuate the purposes of this act.

No restrictions.

Exception.

May do necessary things.

SEC. 10. 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 a housing authority.

Powers supplement other laws.

SEC. 11. 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 persons 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.

Partial invalidity.

SEC. 12. This act is necessary for the immediate support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect immediately.

Effective immediately.

Passed the Senate February 19, 1941.

Passed the House March 5, 1941.

Approved by the Governor March 10, 1941.