

CHAPTER 55**(SB 186)**

AN ACT relating to military affairs.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 198A.040 is amended to read as follows:

The corporation shall have all of the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the power:

- (1) To make or participate in the making of insured construction loans to sponsors of land development or residential housing; provided, however, that such loans shall be made only upon the determination by the corporation that construction loans have been refused in writing, wholly or in part, from private lenders in the Commonwealth of Kentucky upon reasonably equivalent terms and conditions;
- (2) To make or participate in the making of insured mortgage loans to sponsors of residential housing; provided, however, that such loans shall be made only upon the determination by the corporation that mortgage loans have been refused in writing, wholly or in part, from private lenders in the Commonwealth of Kentucky upon reasonably equivalent terms and conditions;
- (3) To purchase or participate in the purchase of insured mortgage loans made to sponsors of residential housing or to persons of lower and moderate income for residential housing; provided, however, that any such purchase shall be made only upon the determination by the corporation that mortgage loans have been refused in writing, wholly or in part, from private lenders in the Commonwealth of Kentucky upon reasonably equivalent terms and conditions;
- (4) To make temporary loans from the housing development fund;
- (5) To collect and pay reasonable fees and charges in connection with making, purchasing and servicing its loans, notes, bonds, commitments, and other evidences of indebtedness;
- (6) To acquire real property, or any interest therein, by purchase, foreclosure, lease, sublease, or otherwise; to own, manage, operate, hold, clear, improve, and rehabilitate such real property; and to sell, assign, exchange, transfer, convey, lease, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of or encumber such real property where such use of real property is necessary or appropriate to the purpose of the Kentucky Housing Corporation;
- (7) To sell, at public or private sale, all or any part of any mortgage or other instrument or document securing a construction, land development, mortgage, or temporary loan of any type permitted by this chapter;
- (8) To procure insurance against any loss in connection with its operations in such amounts, and from such insurers, as it may deem necessary or desirable;
- (9) To consent, whenever it deems it necessary or desirable in the fulfillment of its corporate purposes, to the modification of the rate of interest, time of payment of any installment of principal or interest, or any other terms of any mortgage loan, mortgage loan commitment, construction loan, temporary loan, contract, or agreement of any kind to which the corporation is a party;
- (10) To acquire, establish, operate, lease, and sublease residential housing for persons and families of lower and moderate income and to enter into agreements or other transactions with any federal, state, or local governmental agency for the purpose of providing adequate living quarters for such persons and families in cities and counties where a need has been found for such housing and where no local housing authorities or other organizations exist to fill such need;
- (11) To include in any borrowing such amounts as may be deemed necessary by the corporation to pay financing charges, interest on the obligations for a period not exceeding two (2) years from their date, consultant, advisory, and legal fees and such other expenses as are necessary or incident to such borrowing;
- (12) To make and publish rules and regulations respecting its lending programs and such other rules and regulations as are necessary to effectuate its corporate purposes;
- (13) To provide technical and advisory services to sponsors of residential housing and to residents and potential residents thereof, including but not limited to, housing selection and purchase procedures, family budgeting, property use and maintenance, household management, and utilization of community resources;

- (14) To promote research and development in scientific methods of constructing low cost residential housing of high durability;
- (15) To encourage community organizations to participate in residential housing development;
- (16) To make, execute, and effectuate any and all agreements or other documents with any governmental agency or any person, corporation, association, partnership, or other organization or entity, necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter;
- (17) To accept gifts, devises, bequests, grants, loans, appropriations, revenue sharing, other financing and assistance, and any other aid from any source whatsoever and to agree to, and to comply with, conditions attached thereto;
- (18) To sue and be sued in its own name, plead and be impleaded;
- (19) To maintain an office in the city of Frankfort and at such other place or places as it may determine;
- (20) To adopt an official seal and alter the same at pleasure;
- (21) To adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business and to prescribe rules, regulations, and policies in connection with the performance of its functions and duties;
- (22) To employ fiscal consultants, engineers, attorneys, real estate counselors, appraisers, and such other consultants and employees as may be required in the judgment of the corporation and to fix and pay their compensation from funds available to the corporation therefor, provided that any personal service contracts entered into shall be subject to review by the Government Contract Review Committee of the Legislative Research Commission;
- (23) To invest any funds held in reserve or in sinking fund accounts or any moneys not required for immediate disbursement in obligations guaranteed by the Commonwealth, the United States, or their agencies or instrumentalities; provided, however, that the return on such investments shall not violate any rulings of the Internal Revenue Service regarding the investment of the proceeds of any federally tax exempt bond issue;
- (24) To make or participate in the making of rehabilitation loans to the sponsors or owners of residential housing; provided, however, that any such rehabilitation loan shall be made only upon the determination by the corporation that the rehabilitation loan was not otherwise available wholly or in part from private lenders upon reasonably equivalent terms and conditions;
- (25) To insure or reinsure construction, mortgage, and rehabilitation loans on residential housing; provided, however, that any such insurance, reinsurance, or waiver shall be made only upon the determination by the corporation:
 - (a) That such insurance or reinsurance is not otherwise available wholly or in part from private insurers upon reasonably equivalent terms and conditions; and
 - (b) That such loan is a reasonably sound business investment; and provided further that insurance may be waived only where the corporation finds that the amount of the loan does not exceed eighty-five percent (85%) of the development costs, or eighty-five percent (85%) of the value of the property secured by the mortgage as determined by at least two (2) appraisers who are independent of the sponsors, builders, and developers;
- (26) To make grants from appropriated funds, agency and trust funds, and any other funds from any source available to the corporation, to sponsors, municipalities, local housing authorities, and to owners of residential housing for the development, construction, rehabilitation, or maintenance of residential housing and such facilities related thereto as corporation shall deem important for a proper living environment, all on such terms and conditions as may be deemed appropriate by the corporation;
- (27) To make periodic grants to reduce principal and interest payments on mortgages or rentals payable by persons and families of lower and moderate income; and
- (28) (a) To make a grant to reduce principal and interest payments on a mortgage or a rental payable by a ***regular member of the United States Armed Forces, who names Kentucky as home of record for military purposes, during that member's deployment on active duty outside the United States, or payable by a member of a state National Guard or a Reserve component, who names Kentucky as home of record for military purposes, during that member's federal active duty.*** To qualify for a grant, a member ~~[of a state National Guard or a Reserve component]~~ shall meet reasonable standards established

by the corporation, including having family income equal to or less than two hundred percent (200%) of the state or area median income; and

- (b) To provide a member *identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection* ~~of a state National Guard or a Reserve component, who names Kentucky as home of record for military purposes,~~ and that member's Kentucky resident spouse with the educational, technical, and ombudsman services that are necessary to maintain a mortgage during that member's federal active duty.

The Kentucky Housing Corporation shall be exempt from the regulations of the Office of Insurance and the laws of the Commonwealth relating thereto.

Section 2. KRS 36.480 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Kentucky Department of Military Affairs shall *publish, and periodically update, information on its Web site to assist military spouses in obtaining professional and occupational licenses, certificates, registrations, permits, and other credentials. At a minimum, the department's Web site shall provide links to relevant Department of Defense and Kentucky state agency Web sites* ~~establish procedures to assist the spouses of military personnel acquiring and obtaining professional and occupational licenses, certificates, registrations, permits, or other credentials. A person shall be eligible for assistance under this section if he or she is the spouse of a member of the United States Armed Forces, including a member of a state's National Guard or Reserve on federal active duty who moves into Kentucky when the member of the United States Armed Forces is reassigned by the military. The department shall:~~
- (a) ~~Establish a process by which the department shall verify whether or not the military spouse has relocated because of the reassignment of his or her spouse by the military;~~
- (b) ~~Work directly with other states, testing providers, and organizations issuing credentials to accelerate the application process for obtaining state licenses, certifications, registrations, or permits. To fulfill this directive, the department shall seek input from and disseminate information to state agencies and credentialing boards on ways to accelerate the process by which eligible military spouses moving into the Commonwealth may obtain the credentials required for occupational and professional credentialing as expeditiously as possible; and~~
- (c) ~~Coordinate the activities of other state agencies and credentialing boards to establish a clearinghouse by which information on obtaining licenses, certificates, registration, and permits may be accessed. In coordinating the information, the department shall compile information from other state agencies and credentialing boards on the occupations and professions requiring a state permit, registration, certification, license, or other qualifying document and the name, telephone number, and address of a contact person for each such occupation or profession.~~
- (2) ~~Any state agency or credentialing board issuing permits, registrations, certificates, or licenses that are a prerequisite to a person engaging in an occupation or profession shall assist the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs in expediting the application process for such permits, registrations, certificates, or licenses for military spouses who come into Kentucky because their spouses are reassigned by the military.~~
- (3) ~~The department shall prepare and issue an annual report on its activities in meeting the directives of this section by June 1 of each year. A copy of the report shall be submitted to the Interim Joint Committee on Licensing and Occupations and the Interim Joint Committee on Seniors, Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection].~~

Section 3. The following KRS section is repealed:

36.478 "Mission: Welcome Home" Program.

Approved March 21, 2007.