

175.13A Financial assistance for agricultural producers.

1. In addition to the other programs authorized pursuant to this chapter, the authority is authorized to provide any type of economic assistance directly or indirectly to agricultural producers, and may develop and implement programs including, but not limited to, the making of loan guarantees, interest buy-downs, grants, secured or unsecured direct loans, secondary market purchases of loans or mortgages, loans to mortgage lenders, lending institutions, other agricultural lenders as designated by rule of the authority, or entities that provide funds or credits to such lenders or institutions, to assist agricultural producers within the state. The authority may exercise any of the powers granted to it in this chapter in order to fulfill the goal of providing financial assistance to agricultural producers. The authority may participate in and cooperate with programs of any agency or instrumentality of the federal government or with programs of any other state agency in the administration of the programs to provide economic assistance to agricultural producers.

2. The authority shall provide in any program developed and implemented pursuant to this section that assistance shall be provided only if the following criteria are satisfied:

a. The agricultural producer is a resident of the state.

b. The agricultural producer's land and farm operations are located within the state.

c. Based upon the agricultural producer's net worth, cash flow, debt-to-asset ratio, and other criteria as prescribed by rule of the authority, the authority determines that without such assistance the agricultural producer could not reasonably be expected to be able to obtain, retain, restructure, or service loans or other financing for operating expenses, cash flow requirements, or capital acquisition and maintenance upon a reasonable and affordable basis.

d. Other criteria as the authority prescribes by rule.

3. The authority is granted all powers which are necessary or useful to develop and implement programs and authorizations pursuant to subsection 1. These powers include, but are not limited to:

a. All general powers stated in section 175.6.

b. The power to make or enter into or to require the making or entry into of agreements of any type, with or by any person, that are necessary to effect the purposes of this section. These agreements may include, but are not limited to contracts, notes, bonds, guarantees, mortgages, loan agreements, trust indentures, reimbursement agreements, letters of credit or other liquidity or credit enhancement agreements, reserve agreements, loan or mortgage purchase agreements, buy-down agreements, grants, collateral or security agreements, insurance contracts, or other similar documents. The agreements may contain any terms and conditions which the authority determines are reasonably necessary or useful to implement the purposes of this section or which are usually included in agreements or documents between private or public persons in similar transactions.

c. The power to issue its bonds or notes and expend or commit moneys for the purposes set forth in subsection 1. The authority may provide in the documents authorizing its bonds or notes that their principal and interest shall be limited obligations payable solely out of the revenues derived from a specific program or source and do not constitute an indebtedness of the authority or a charge against the authority's general credit or general fund. Alternatively, the authority may provide that the principal and interest of specified bonds or notes do constitute an indebtedness of the authority and a charge against the authority's general credit or general fund.

d. The power to participate in any federal or other state program designed to assist agricultural producers or in related federal or state programs.

e. The power to require submission of evidence satisfactory to the authority of the receipt by an agricultural producer of the assistance intended under a program developed and implemented pursuant to this section. In that connection, the authority, through its members, employees or agents, may inspect the books and records of any person receiving or involved in the provision of assistance in accordance with this section.

f. The power to establish by rule appropriate enforcement provisions in order to assure compliance with this section and rules adopted pursuant to this section, to seek the enforcement of such rules and the terms of any agreement or document by decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, and to require as a condition of providing assistance pursuant to this section the consent of any person receiving or involved in the provision of the assistance to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state over any enforcement proceeding.

g. The power to require, as a condition of the provision of assistance pursuant to this section, any representations and warranties on the part of any person receiving or involved in providing such assistance that the authority determines are reasonably necessary or useful to carry out the purposes of this section. A person receiving or involved in providing assistance pursuant to this section is liable to the authority for damages suffered by the authority by reason of a misrepresentation or the breach of a warranty.

4. All persons, public and private, are authorized to cooperate with the authority and to participate in the programs developed and implemented pursuant to this section and in accordance with the rules of the authority.

5. The powers granted the authority under this section are in addition to other powers contained in this chapter. All other provisions of this chapter, except section 175.19, subsection 4, apply to bonds or notes issued pursuant to powers granted to the authority under this section, to reserve funds, to appropriations, and to the remedies of bondholders and noteholders except to the extent that they are inconsistent with this section.

86 Acts, ch 1026, § 5; 87 Acts, ch 52, § 5