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or public agency, or in such other instances as the Commissioner may determine.

§ 232.520 Maximum fees and charges by lender.

The lender may collect from the borrower the amount of the fees provided for in this subpart. The lender may also collect from the borrower an initial service charge in an amount not to exceed one and one-half of one percent of the original principal amount of the loan to reimburse the lender for the cost of originating and closing the transaction. Any additional charges shall be subject to the prior approval of the Commissioner.

§ 232.522 Inspection fee.

The commitment shall provide for the payment of an inspection fee in an amount not to exceed $5.00 per thousand dollars of the commitment. The minimum inspection fee shall be $50.00 paid prior to the date construction is begun: *Provided, however,* That in no case shall the combined total of the fees provided for in §§ 232.505, 232.510 of this section exceed one percent of the original principal face amount of the loan.

ELIGIBLE SECURITY INSTRUMENTS

§ 232.525 Note and security form.

The lender shall present for insurance a note and security instrument, if required, on forms approved by the Commissioner for use in the jurisdiction in which the property to be improved is located.

§ 232.530 Disbursement of proceeds.

At the time of endorsement for insurance of the note by the Commissioner, the entire principal amount of the note shall have been disbursed to the borrower or to his creditors for his account and with his consent.

§ 232.535 Loan multiples—minimum principal.

The loan shall involve a principal obligation in multiples of $100, and the minimum principal obligation shall be $10,000.

[40 FR 4908, Feb. 3, 1975]

§ 232.540 Method of loan payment and amortization period.

(a) *Monthly payments.* The loan shall provide for monthly payments on the first day of each month on account of interest and principal and shall provide for payment in accordance with the amortization plan as agreed upon by the borrower, the lender and the Commissioner.

(b) *Amortization period.* (1) The loan shall have an amortization of either 5, 10, or 15 years by providing for either 60, 120, or 180 monthly amortization payments. No fire safety loan shall have an amortization period in excess of 15 years unless the amount of the loan exceeds $50,000.00, in which event the amortization period may be increased to 20 years, with a provision for 240 monthly amortization payments.

(2) In any event, the loan shall have a maturity satisfactory to the Commissioner of not less than 5 or more than 20 years from the date of the beginning of amortization or the Commissioner's estimate of the remaining economic life of the structure, whichever is the lesser.

(3) The Commissioner shall establish the date of the first payment to the principal.

§ 232.545 Covenant against liens.

(a) The security instrument shall contain a covenant against the creation by the borrower of additional liens against the property superior or inferior to the lien of such instrument, except with the prior approval of the Commissioner.

(b) The covenant required under paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply where a lien inferior to the lien of the insured mortgage is given in favor of a Federal, State or local governmental agency or instrumentality under such circumstances as may be approved by the Commissioner, provided the source of funds for repayment of the inferior lien is limited to surplus cash or residual receipts.

[36 FR 24641, Dec. 22, 1971, as amended at 48 FR 35393, Aug. 4, 1983; 49 FR 12215, Mar. 29, 1984]