

CONGRESSIONAL STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

Section 2 of Pub. L. 91-431 provided that:

“(a) The Congress finds that a large number of municipalities and other entities of local government throughout the Nation are unable to finance construction of vital and urgently needed public facilities because of the shortage of funds for long-term borrowing.

“(b) The Congress further finds that there is an immediate need for such facilities in order to provide basic safeguards for the health and well-being of the people of the United States, to check widespread pollution of irreplaceable water sources, and to provide an effective and practical method of combating rising unemployment.”

ADMINISTRATIVE PRIORITY FOR APPLICATIONS RELATING TO ACTIVITIES IN AREAS AFFECTED BY BASE CLOSINGS

State or unit of local government or agency thereof affected by reduction in level of expenditure or employment at Department of Defense installation located in or near such State or unit of local government, priority in processing applications for assistance under this section, see section 1453a of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 1453a of this title.

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CHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This chapter is referred to in sections 3123, 5153 of this title; title 15 section 636; title 16 section 3345; title 33 section 2220; title 40 sections 14321, 14525; title 43 section 1601.

§ 3121. Findings and declarations**(a) Findings**

Congress finds that—

(1) while the economy of the United States is undergoing a sustained period of economic growth resulting in low unemployment and increasing incomes, there continue to be areas suffering economic distress in the form of high unemployment, low incomes, underemployment, and outmigration as well as areas facing sudden economic dislocations due to industrial restructuring and relocation, defense base closures and procurement cutbacks, certain Federal actions (including environmental requirements that result in the removal of economic activities from a locality), and natural disasters;

(2) as the economy of the United States continues to grow, those distressed areas contain significant human and infrastructure resources that are underused;

(3) expanding international trade and the increasing pace of technological innovation offer both a challenge and an opportunity to the distressed communities of the United States;

(4) while economic development is an inherently local process, the Federal Government

should work in partnership with public and private local, regional, and State organizations to ensure that existing resources are not wasted and all Americans have an opportunity to participate in the economic growth of the United States;

(5) in order to avoid wasteful duplication of effort and to limit the burden on distressed communities, Federal, State, and local economic development activities should be better planned and coordinated and Federal program requirements should be simplified and made more consistent;

(6) the goal of Federal economic development activities should be to work in partnership with local, regional, and State public and private organizations to support the development of private sector businesses and jobs in distressed communities;

(7) Federal economic development efforts will be more effective if they are coordinated with, and build upon, the trade and technology programs of the United States; and

(8) under this chapter, new employment opportunities should be created by developing and expanding new and existing public works and other facilities and resources rather than by merely transferring jobs from one area of the United States to another.

(b) Declarations

Congress declares that, in order to promote a strong and growing economy throughout the United States—

(1) assistance under this chapter should be made available to both rural and urban distressed communities;

(2) local communities should work in partnership with neighboring communities, the States, and the Federal Government to increase their capacity to develop and implement comprehensive economic development strategies to address existing, or impending, economic distress; and

(3) whether suffering from long-term distress or a sudden dislocation, distressed communities should be encouraged to take advantage of the development opportunities afforded by technological innovation and expanding and newly opened global markets.

(Pub. L. 89-136, §2, as added Pub. L. 105-393, title I, §102(a), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3598.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3121, Pub. L. 89-136, §2, Aug. 26, 1965, 79 Stat. 552; Pub. L. 94-487, title I, §102, Oct. 12, 1976, 90 Stat. 2331, set forth congressional findings and statement of purpose of chapter, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-393, §102(a).

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 105-393, title I, §105, Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3618, provided that: "This title [see Short Title of 1998 Amendment note set out below] and the amendments made by this title shall take effect on a date determined by the Secretary of Commerce, but not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 13, 1998]." [Effective Feb. 11, 1999, see 64 F.R. 9222.]

SHORT TITLE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-393, §1(a), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3596, provided that: "This Act [see Tables for classification]