

## ***“Administration for the Training of Future Entrepreneurs and Workers Organic Act”***

Act No. 1 of June 23, 1985, as amended

(Contains amendments incorporated by:

Act No. 34 of August 24, 1990

Act No. 97 of December 18, 1991

Act No. 224 of August 6, 1999

Act No. 259 of September 3, 2003)

To create the ‘Administration for the Training of Future Entrepreneurs and Workers,’ which will provide the socially-disadvantaged youth and/or participants of proposals and projects, as mentioned in this Act, with sufficient training to develop in the field of employment and self-employment, to be achieved through training, technical-vocational retraining, educational opportunities and personal development; establish eligibility requirements; provide incentives for the participants; and determine its organization, functions and activities.

### **STATEMENT OF MOTIVES**

Our Puerto Rican youth is a fount of creative energy in this country, and thus, is a source of hope to generate the massive effort that Puerto Rico needs to face its crucial problems and to turn into reality the hopes and aspirations of our people.

Because of their nature, magnitude and complexity, the problems of our Puerto Rican youth are one of the primary challenges faced by Puerto Rican society, as supported by the following facts:

1. The high percentage of youths that make up the demographic total of the country.
2. The extremely bloated rate of unemployment and idleness throughout the Island, which is notably greater among our youth.
3. The extensive number of dropouts and the low levels of scholastic achievement generally found in public schools.
4. The limitations of the school system to provide our youth with minimum work skills or abilities which could give them a real opportunity to find a job in the labor market.
5. The continuous inroads of crime and vice on those who are suffering from unproductive idleness.
6. The concomitant despair and weak motivation for personal excellences, self-help, and concerted and shared community action.

These and other problems affect almost all or most of the various youth sectors or groups, but they especially concern those who come from the less fortunate families of the urban as well as the rural zones of the country. Their legitimate clamor. to be given the opportunity to

share in contributing to the welfare of the country through their love, their creativity and their work, is a wail that the people, through its government cannot ignore.

The gravity of the problems as well as the clear acknowledgement of the potentially-immense stream of hopes, illusions, good wishes and human resources which this youth can exemplify for the future of the country, if properly trained, motivated and directed, require an immediate, vigorous, massive and innovative program of activities to adequately stimulate, assist, prepare and train our youth so that they may become self-sufficient and may forge a better personal future for themselves as well as serving their fellow-citizens and the country in general more effectively.

An essential part of the new focal point of the government's public policy to answer the young people of Puerto Rico's clamor and fulfill the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's moral commitment to give Puerto Rican youth a vital and active part in the reconstruction of Puerto Rico, is the creation of a "Corps of Volunteers in the Service of Puerto Rico", with sufficient financial, human and technical resources to promote truly and effectively the development of our young people and their full integration to the creative efforts of the country.

This endeavor, which is fundamental to attain true social welfare, must inspire, commit and mobilize the support and collaboration of all public and private sectors of our society.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico :*

**TITLE I. — CREATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TRAINING OF FUTURE ENTREPRENEURS AND WORKERS.** [18 L.P.R.A., Part 3, Chapter 91, Subchapter 1]

**Section 1. — Title of the Act.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1411)

This Act shall be denominated as the “Administration for the Training of Future Entrepreneurs and Workers Organic Act.”

**Section 2. — Statement of Public Policy.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1412)

It is the public policy of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to establish the “Administration for Future Workers and Entrepreneurs Training,” which shall provide training and personal development opportunities for the participants by means of the creation of opportunities for study. The Administration shall be governed by two basic program guidelines. First, it shall organize and develop a broad and innovative character-building and technical-vocational training activities program for the comprehensive development of economically disadvantaged youths and/or participants who, from workshops, camping, farms or other study, work and services operation centers or campuses, prepare said youths both for self-employment by means of small businesses and cooperatives and for productive remunerative work in public and private entities and businesses.

The Administration shall develop education, training, work and services activities in diverse fields of human endeavor to create new sources of employment in manufacturing,

agriculture, commerce, construction, maintenance and repair services, tourism, and any other phase of economic activity.

In the second place, it shall develop an extensive program of works, services and community action programs by the participants, where they will contribute with their efforts and work to solve problems and abate the needs of the community in general, and specifically, of the most needy groups, in order to obtain work experience, and an awareness of their civic, personal and social responsibility. The resources and efforts of other government or civic entities, including those that are non-profit in nature, shall be incorporated to such ends.

In recognition of the overwhelming need to encourage, through the creation of educational, training, work and personal development opportunities for young, socially-disadvantaged persons and/or participants, it is hereby established as a guiding objective of the Administration, that, upon concluding their training and service, the participants shall have developed the attitudes, skills and initiatives that will enable them to create opportunities aggressively, whether as self-employed, or through the organization of small businesses or cooperatives of goods and services.

### **Section 3. — Creation of the Administration.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1413)

The ‘Administration for the Training of Future Entrepreneurs and Workers’ is hereby created which shall be attached to the Department of Labor and Human Resources, as an operating component, under the general direction, supervision, coordination and evaluation of the Secretary of Labor and Human Resources, as provided in Section 6 of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of May 4, 1994, known as the “Reorganization Plan of the Department of Labor and Human Resources.”

### **Section 4. — Definitions.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1414)

For the purposes of this Act, the following terms shall have the meaning stated below:

- (a) ‘Administration’ shall mean the Administration for the Training of Future Entrepreneurs and Workers.
- (b) ‘Agency’ shall mean any department, office, bureau, division, instrumentality, public corporation or any subsidiary thereof, of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- (c) ‘Administrator’ shall mean the first executive officer of the Administration.
- (d) ‘Governor’ shall mean the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- (e) ‘Federal Government’ shall mean any department, agency, division or instrumentality of the Government of the United States of America, its states, and the divisions or instrumentalities thereof.
- (f) ‘Participant’ shall mean any citizen between the ages of fourteen (14) and twenty-nine (29) years of age, residing in Puerto Rico, who avails him/herself of the benefits of the Administration as an apprentice or assistant, to receive training, education, employment or services, subject to the provisions of this Act. It shall also mean the participants in special projects which are constituted by displaced workers, as said term is defined by the law or

applicable federal regulations; or qualified disabled persons as defined in U.S. Act No. 101-336 (1990), known as the ‘Americans with Disabilities Act’ (ADA), Section 3, clause 2.

(g) ‘Volunteer’ shall mean any private person, not considered as a participant, who renders services to the Administration

(h) ‘Hotel School and Tourism Advisory Board’ Organism that shall advise and make recommendations to the Administrator of the Administration for Future Workers and Entrepreneurs Training or an authorized representative of same, regarding the content of the curricula and programs to be offered by the Guánica Hotel School, pursuant to the needs of tourism activity in the southwest region of Puerto Rico.

The Board shall consist of nine (9) members: the Executive Director of the Tourism Company of Puerto Rico, who shall be the Chairperson of same; the Secretary of the Labor and Human Resources Department; the Secretary of the Department of Education; the Administrator of the Administration for Future Workers and Entrepreneurs Training; the Executive Director of the National Parks Company; the President of the Puerto Rico Hotel & Tourism Association; the President of the Puerto Rican Association of Travel Agents; the President of the Puerto Rican Inn (Paradores) Owners Association, or their authorized representatives, who shall have the capability, knowledge and decision making power to represent effectively the substituted official, and a representative of the tour companies and guides which shall be designated by the Governor out of three (3) candidates to be submitted by the group. The President of the Board shall convene its members according to the needs of the school, not less than two times (2) times each year.

## **Section 5. — Objectives and Functions of the Administration.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1415)

With the purpose of implementing the public policy enunciated hereby, and achieve the objectives of the Administration, it shall have the following objectives and functions, among others:

(a) Establish, organize and operate its various installations, whether campuses, workshops, farms, camps, schools, or institutions of any other nature, where the participants shall be trained or work. For this purpose, it may contract or reach agreements with private profit or nonprofit educational institutions, for them to provide the training, studies and development of the participants, under the terms and conditions established by the laws in force.

(b) Offer counseling, guidance and opportunities to become acquainted with the Administration, to the participants who wish to take part in it.

(c) Develop study, training, work and personal development programs on its own account or through contracts, or any other type of agreement, to achieve the purposes of this Act, and specifically, leading to the creation of job opportunities for the participants.

(d) To develop pilot programs and sample programs which shall apply the provisions of this Act as a test.

(e) Coordinate the Administration’s activities with other agencies.

(f) To develop farming, fishing, industrial, commercial, forestry, hotel tourism and any other type of activity necessary to satisfy the needs of the Administration and to achieve its maximum self-sufficiency.

- (g) To develop in the participants working habits and attitudes of leadership, self-sufficiency, self-confidence and a desire to serve others.
- (h) Organize and counsel the participants and those who have completed the Administration’s program, provide them with technical and financial assistance to establish and operate workshops, small businesses, and service enterprises, to be operated and managed individually by the participants or those who have completed their Program, or through cooperatives, partnerships, corporations or any group thereof.
- (i) Provide financial assistance, in the form of loans, incentives or inducements directly to the participants as well as to any other private person or entity that provides services to the participants, in order to promote the development of the Administration.
- (j) Contract the rendering of services, training and workshops for employees or beneficiaries of other government agencies and private organizations when they promote the Administration’s objectives.
- (k) To organize for its former participants:
  - (1) Job placement services in lucrative employment;
  - (2) groups or cooperatives for the production of goods and services, and
  - (3) extension programs for their continuing improvement.
- (l) To request and obtain appropriations, donations and assistance in the form of money, goods, services or others from the federal government, the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico including its agencies and political subdivisions or from private sources to carry out the purposes stated in this Act, under the conditions established in the applicable legislation, regulations, agreements or contracts.
- (m) To collect a fair and reasonable fee for the training, retraining and educational courses that are offered, under the proper circumstances, and when it is not detrimental to the Administration’s purposes, taking into account the financial capacity of the participants, the Administration’s resources, and any requirement that is stipulated by agreements, to generate additional resources for the Administration.
- (n) In the measure that is necessary, and with the purpose of providing the financial resources needed for the implementation of the Administration’s services, the sale or lease of assets, whether real estate or goods and chattels, when their use is no longer needed, its operation is onerous, or otherwise, when disposing of them serves the best interests of the Administration and the participants. It shall be understood that the moneys collected from said sales or leases shall be adjudicated to the Administration’s fund for operating expenses and capital improvements. In these cases, the laws in effect for the taxation and appraisal of assets must be complied with. The sale shall be subject to the approval of the Governor of Puerto Rico.
- (o) To operate the Guánica Hotel School with the advice of the Advisory Board created herein.

## TITLE II. — DIRECTION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

### **Section 6. — Administrator.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1421)

The administrative and executive functions of the Administration shall be executed by an Administrator, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the recommendation of the

Secretary of Labor and Human Resources, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term of four (4) years, and until his/her successor is appointed and takes office. The Administrator shall receive the remuneration or salary assigned by the Governor, and consigned annually in the General Budget of Operating Expenses of the Government of Puerto Rico. The Administrator shall answer directly to the Secretary of Labor and Human Resources regarding all matters of the Administration, and shall be subject to the public policy, and the directives and norms promulgated by the Secretary. The Secretary shall approve the internal organization of the Administration, shall determine programmatic priorities, and establish the mechanisms for the liaison and coordination that should exist between the Agency and the other components of the Department.

The Administrator after consulting with the Secretary of Labor and Human Resources, may appoint a Deputy Administrator, and fix his/her corresponding remuneration, pursuant to the customary practice for offices of the same or similar nature. The Deputy Administrator shall perform such functions, duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Administrator, and shall substitute for him/her in the event of his/her temporary absence or disability.

If for any reason, the Administrator should die, resign, or is removed or dismissed from office for any reason, the Deputy Administrator shall assume his/her functions, responsibilities, powers and duties as Acting Administrator until a successor is appointed and takes office.”

#### **Section 7. — Functions and Powers of the Administrator.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1422)

In addition to the functions and powers conferred in other provisions of this Act and those inherent to his office, the Administrator shall have the following:

- (a) Establish, organize, direct and supervise the administrative structure of the Administration.
- (b) Appoint the needed personnel to perform the functions of the Administration pursuant to the provisions of this Act. The Administrator shall be an Individual Administrator under the provisions of Act No. 5 of October 14, 1975, as amended, known as the ‘Puerto Rico Public Service Personnel Act.’
- (c) Plan, direct, and supervise all individual components of the Administration in the exercise of the functions conferred on him/her.
- (d) Devise and adopt an organizational scheme through the design of programs, plans, activities, norms or by any other means, whose point of reference is to propitiate the integral development of the participants.
- (e) Assign administrative tasks based on criteria that will produce an integrated and efficient operation, and will allow the most effective use of the individual components of the Administration, taking into consideration the following factors, among others: (1) rational assignment and distribution of functions; (2) distribution of power in tune with responsibilities; (3) proper selection of the individual components of the Administration, and (4) the Administration’s needs.
- (f) Perform studies that will uncover dysfunctional elements of the Administration and take every measure to ensure compliance of the purposes of this Act.

(g) Establish together with the other agencies of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the conditions needed to achieve the greatest opportunities for joint efforts addressed to the integral coordination and planning of the respective programs, in benefit of the participants.

(h) Appoint commissions, committees, councils, associations, or bodies of any other nature to direct the widest participation of the citizenry in the Administration.

(i) Render periodic reports to the Governor on the Administration’s activities, achievements, and projects, and also advise him/her regarding the public policy and administrative actions that must be adopted to achieve the purposes of this Act. He/she shall also advise the government agencies that request it on those projects, functions and activities related to the Administration’s purposes.

(j) Prepare and administer the Administration’s operating expense budget and keep a register and complete and detailed accounting of all expenses, disbursements and income, according to the applicable laws, and regulations of the Department of the Treasury.

(k) Subject to applicable laws and regulations, acquire, lease, sell or otherwise dispose of the necessary property to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(l) Contract for, purchase, or otherwise provide the Administration with all the material, supplies, equipment, parts or services deemed necessary for the operation of the Administration, subject to the Regulations adopted to such purposes, without being subject to the provisions of Act No. 164 of July 23, 1974, as amended, known as the ‘General Services Administration Act.’ The regulations shall contain adequate norms to ensure the use of the funds in the way that is most compatible with the public interest and, among other measure to such ends, it shall include the requirement of public bidding for the purchase or other acquisition of materials, supplies, equipment, parts or services that exceed twenty-five thousand (25,000) dollars, and construction or public improvements contracts that exceed thirty thousand (30,000) dollars.

The regulations shall contain the means to govern the bidding procedures and other pertinent administrative processes in all their essential phases which shall be alike, to the extent it is feasible, to those established or to be established for the other executive bodies of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(m) To promote, sponsor and participate in conferences, seminars, study groups, research centers and any type of educational or other activities, provided they are compatible with the purposes of this Act, and to establish information exchange systems with (1) other components of programs addressed to the welfare of our youth in general; (2) government bodies; (3) foundations, educational civil, professional, industrial, labor, cooperative or any other type of institutions, to encourage the proper focus of the problems of participants, in particular, and to the economic and social problems of the country.

(n) To represent the Administration in those acts or activities that require it.

(o) To provide for the functioning of the Administration’s diverse facilities and activities in order to achieve the greatest degree of operational self-sufficiency for the optimum use of all the individual components of the Administration and the other available resources.

(p) To enter into covenants, agreements or contracts that may be necessary or convenient to fulfill the objectives of the Administration with the federal and state government bodies, with

any agency and with individuals, and profitable and nonprofitable particular and/or private institutions, among others.

(q) To promote and stimulate community action in urban as well as rural zones to solve the problems that beset the community in general and participants specifically.

(r) To adopt an official seal for the Administration of which the courts shall take judicial notice.

(s) To render an annual report to the Governor and to the Legislature on the activities, projects, achievements, expenses and overall situation of the Administration as well as any periodic reports required.

(t) Authorize the Administrator to enter financing contracts with other federal and state agencies, public corporations or with private companies, with the authorization of the Office of the Management and Budget, when there are no sufficient funds to finance the operation of the diverse study programs; or for the acquisition of equipment, services and others for the best operation of the Administration.”

### **TITLE III. — ORGANIZATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TRAINING OF FUTURE ENTREPRENEURS AND WORKERS.**

#### **Section 8. — Organization of the Administration. (18 L.P.R.A. § 1431)**

At the organizational level, the Administration’s components shall consist of the following basic categories: (1) officials, career employees, employees of trust or transitory and other salaried or contracted personnel; (2) volunteers, not considered participants, who render services to the Administration, subject to the provisions of Section 11 of this Act, and (3) participants who enlist in the Administration at an apprentice or assistant level and receive education, training, work, special projects or guidance services.

#### **Section 9. — Eligibility and Admittance of Participants. (18 L.P.R.A. § 1432)**

Every participant shall meet the following minimum requirements to be eligible to enter the Administration:

(a) Must be between the ages of fourteen (14) to twenty-nine (29) at the time of participating in the programs to be offered by the Administration, with the exception of participants in special projects for workers and/or persons with disabilities.

(b) To require advanced or specialized training or retraining that will give him a real opportunity of finding a job in the labor market.

(c) To require education, training and guidance to be able to obtain and keep a significant job, to participate successfully in the regular educational programs or to qualify for other training programs.

(d) To have the necessary aptitudes and aspirations to complete and obtain the benefits and services of the Administration, and not be affected by medical or psychological problems of such nature that would prevent him/her from meeting the requirements of behavior, discipline, work and successful participation in the group activities required by the Administration.

(e) To meet any other requirement or condition which is provided by regulations and be committed to comply with the rules and norms thereof.

Subject to the basic requirement indicated above, the Administrator shall prepare and submit for the approval of the Secretary of Labor and Human Resources, the regulations on the criteria for eligibility, as well as the procedures for the admission and suspension of the individual components of the Administration.

The Administrator shall likewise adopt the norms and selection guidelines for the participants upon consultation with entities and organizations such as professional or labor groups, public employment agencies, community action bodies or individuals.

No participant shall be selected as such unless there is a reasonable possibility that he/she shall participate successfully in group activities and shall behave in a way that is compatible with the proper functioning of the Administration.

In the selection of the Administration's participants there shall be no discrimination whatsoever by reason of race, color, sex, birth, origin or social condition or political or religious convictions.

There shall be no discrimination against a participant with a physical disability for said condition when the same does not constitute a limitation to participate in the Administration's activities.

#### **Section 10. — Scholarships and Other Incentives.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1433)

Every participant shall receive a scholarship in the amount and with form of payment, which shall be bimonthly or monthly to be established by regulations. The participants shall also receive an additional financial incentive as established by the Administrator by regulations, according to the Administration's resources, upon satisfactory completion of a minimum period of service in the Administration. In those cases in which contracts are entered with private educational institutions to offer services to the participants, the scholarships that they receive from the federal or state government for studies shall be understood to be equivalent to the economic incentives and/or scholarships that they should receive for their participation in the Administration, at the discretion of the Administrator.

The Administrator is also authorized to grant participants personal and travel leave, provide them with food, transportation, recreation and other facilities and services as deemed necessary, subject to what is provided for such purposes through regulations.

Every participant who has successfully completed his participation in the Administration shall also receive an official certificate accrediting his studies or training which shall be recognized and admitted as such for all pertinent purposes wherever it is required.”

#### **Section 11. — Services by Private Entities and Citizens.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1434)

The Administrator is hereby authorized to seek, obtain and use the services offered free of charge, totally or partially, by any private profit or nonprofit entity, thus providing by regulations to such effects the measure in which the Administration shall reimburse the necessary expenses as a result of their participation in the Administration which are incurred and duly authorized and verified.

The Administrator shall likewise request and recruit private persons to offer their services to the Administration on a volunteer basis without receiving any remuneration, salary or stipend whatsoever. However, these volunteers may be reimbursed for those expenses they necessarily incur in rendering their services, subject to the applicable regulations.”

**Section 12. — Regulations.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1437)

The Administrator shall submit for the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Labor, among others, the following regulations:

- (a) To establish the organization and operation of the Administration.
- (b) To establish the criteria for the eligibility, continuance and severance of the participants and volunteers.
- (c) To fix the conditions, scholarships, financial incentives and other benefits the participants shall receive and the standards to reimburse the expenses incurred to the volunteers pursuant to this Act.
- (d) To establish the disposition of benefits generated by the programs.
- (e) To cover everything that is not expressly provided by this Act, but which is compatible with the faculties and functions provided by law for the Administration.

All regulations adopted according to the authority conferred by this Act, and duly promulgated shall have force of law.

Provided, that those regulations adopted to govern fiscal matters shall be first approved by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to Act No. 230 of July 23, 1974, as amended, known as the “Accounting Act of the Government of Puerto Rico”.

**Section 13. — Agreements with Other Agencies.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1441)

(a) The Administration may use, by agreement with any agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and with the approval of the Secretary of Labor and Human Resources any funds, property, personnel or other resources needed to jointly carry out any project or activity within the purposes of the Administration established by this Act.

(b) The Administration may cede any funds, property, personnel or other resources it deems convenient to any agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Labor and Human Resources so that such agency shall take charge of the administration of projects or programs established according to the provisions and purposes of this Act.

**Section 14. — Transfer of Program to the Administration.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1442)

The transfer of personnel, records or other resources property of the Corps of Volunteers at the Service of Puerto Rico to the Administration is hereby directed, which shall not affect the vested rights of said employees. Likewise, the transfer of all substantial property to the Education and Work Program previously ceded to the Corps of Volunteers at the Service of Puerto Rico by the Department of Education, is hereby directed. The Secretary of Transportation and Public Works is hereby authorized to award ownership and custody of

these properties to the Administration once the identification process and inventory of said properties has concluded.”

**Section 15. — Obligation to Render Services.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1443)

The Administrator shall award the necessary contracts or agreements to the providers of the Health Reform Plan of the Government of Puerto Rico so that they may provide all possible medical services to the Administration’s participants free of charge or by the payment of a minimum amount to cover the cost of the medication or supplies used as agreed. The Department of Health shall serve as facilitator in the processes of the rendering of health services, maintenance and conservation of physical and mental health enforced by the Health Reform in Puerto Rico.

**Section 16. — Obligation of the Agencies to Submit Information.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1444)

Every agency of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall provide to the Administrator with such information, data, documents and services that are necessary and essential to the Administration after being approved by the head of the corresponding agency, except such information whose disclosure is forbidden by law.

**Section 17. — Acceptance of Donations and Funds.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1451)

The Administration is empowered to accept donations or funds from appropriations, materials, properties or other similar benefits which originate from any person or private institution, or the Federal Government, or the municipal governments, or any instrumentality or agency of said governments, and advise or enter into contracts and agreements with any of said governments or their instrumentalities or agencies for the use of said donations or funds pursuant exclusively to the Administration’s purposes and objectives and subject to the provisions of this Act and the regulations adopted by virtue thereof. The funds received which originate from donations shall be used according to the terms of each donation and the applicable statutes.

**Section 18. — Accident Protection for Volunteers and Participants.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1452)

The participants and volunteers that render services free of charge to the Administration shall be covered by the provisions of Act No. 45 of April 18, 1935, as amended, known as the ‘Work Accident Compensation Act,’ when they suffer work accidents or occupational diseases.

**Section 19. — Preferred Treatment of the Administration.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1453)

The agencies of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico may purchase products or articles of any nature produced by the Administration. Said purchases shall be made directly without the requirement of a submission of bids and without being subject to

the provisions of Act No. 164 of July 23, 1974, as amended, known as the “General Services Administration Act.”

**Section 20. — Agreements with the Federal Government or the States of the United States.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1454)

The Administration may solicit, obtain and contract for aid or assistance, in cash, kind, services, or of any other nature from the Federal Government, for the purposes of this Act, pursuant to applicable laws, regulations and agreements.

The Governor is hereby empowered to designate the Administrator and the Administration as the official and the agency charged with the administration of any aid or assistance program mentioned in the preceding paragraph. By virtue of such authority, the Administrator shall arrange and process the necessary agreements in the most effective way in order to achieve the purposes of this Act. To such effects, the Administrator is authorized to use, create, regulate, coordinate, evaluate, or promote and develop, as compatible with the laws, regulations and contractual conditions that govern such agreements, those projects, facilities, organizations, activities and services that are required to obtain the greatest benefits for the Administration. Likewise, the Administrator shall have the power to supply to the entity with which he/she enters into an agreement, or the person or entity designated thereby, with information of any nature whose disclosure is not forbidden by law, in order to comply with any of said agreements.

**Section 21. — Accounting of Funds.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1455)

The Administration’s funds shall be in the custody of the Secretary of the Treasury, separate and distinct from any other funds and moneys of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and shall not be subject to a specific fiscal year.

The Administration’s moneys or funds shall be administered in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Treasury, for such purposes and pursuant to the guidelines provided in this Act, and shall be subject to any specific requirements of the Federal statutes under any agreement with the Administration, or as a condition of any donation. All disbursements drawn against this Fund shall comply with the general or specific rules that are applicable, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The funds and moneys of the Administration shall be designated exclusively to meet the needs related to the application of this Act, and their source shall be:

- (1) The annual appropriations by the Legislature for the development of the Administration.
- (2) The moneys intended by the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the payment of medical and hospital insurance, or for any other purpose in benefit of the Administration.
- (3) The moneys allocated by or collected from the Federal Government for any area of the Administration, which shall be used for the purposes for which they have been legislated or agreed.

(4) The moneys that come from donations made to the Administration by any person, or private or government entity, which shall be used according to the conditions of the donation and the statutes that apply to each case.

(5) The moneys generated by the Administration’s activities, which shall be used pursuant to this Act.

(6) The moneys arising from any source which the Administration shall receive or have custody of, under any agreement, contract, law or any applicable regulations with force of law.

**Section 22. — Appropriation of Funds.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1411 note)

The funds needed for the operation of the Administration shall be consigned each year in the Joint Resolution of the General Budget of Expenses of the Government of Puerto Rico.

**Section 23. — Repeal and relationship with other laws.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1411 note)

Any law or part thereof which is incompatible with this act is hereby repealed. Nevertheless, it is not the intention of this act to prevent any agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico which, pursuant to the statutes that govern it, has the authority to establish programs substantially addressed to the same objectives as those authorized by virtue of this act, to fulfill its legislative mandate, unless it is affected by any of the transfers authorized by this act or by any other act which applies to said transfers.

**Section 24. — Separability.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1411 note)

If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstances were found to be void, this will not affect the rest of the Act or the application of said provisions to persons or circumstances which are different from those with regard to which it was found to be void.

**Section 25. — Effectiveness.** (18 L.P.R.A. § 1411 note)

This Act shall take effect July 1, 1985.

**Note.** This compilation was prepared by Puerto Rico OMB staff who have striven to ensure it is complete and accurate. However, this is not an official compilation and may not be completely free of error. It contains all amendments incorporated for reading purposes only. For accuracy and exactitude please refer to the act original text. Compiled by the Office of Management and Budget Library.