

CHARTER HOUSING REVITALIZATION SUPPORT OFFICE

The Military Housing Revitalization Act of 1995 provides a significant opportunity to work with the private sector on improving housing conditions for military service members and their families. The objective is to execute the Act's \$1.5 billion of budget authority within 5 years or less and to dramatically improve the Department's housing within ten years using the Act's new housing finance authorities.

Section 1. Establishment

The Housing Revitalization Support Office (HRSO) is hereby chartered as a cooperative effort of the Department of Defense and the Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force to develop creative methods of using private sector capital and expertise to improve housing for military service members and their families. The office will report to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Economic Security.

Section 2. Functions

The Housing Revitalization Support Office shall facilitate implementation of the Military Housing Revitalization Act's housing finance authorities by: developing program policies, procedures, and procurement and real estate guidelines for incorporating these new authorities into Service housing programs; participating in and overseeing and reviewing proposed housing acquisitions; monitoring and evaluating executed contracts to judge the program's effectiveness; and, preparing required reports to Congress.

Specific objectives are as follows:

1. interact with existing government and industry organizations and individuals to implement the housing finance authorities and procedures.
2. develop standardized solicitation packages, lease documents, contracts, etc. (actual contracts will be signed and administered by the responsible Service).
3. develop performance standards to monitor progress and results in use of the housing finance authorities.
4. identify and champion better ways of obtaining housing through the use of private capital and expertise, and commercial practices and procedures.
5. develop legislative proposals to institutionalize proven authorities.

Section 3. Organization

The Housing Revitalization Support Office (HRSO) should include people with experience in housing program management and procurement, real estate development, construction project management, housing operations, budget and finance from the Departments and private industry. The HRSO will organize around integrated acquisition teams. Initially, each team will be led by a HRSO project leader and a deputy designated by the affected Military Service. The teams will also include typical Military Service housing acquisition personnel supplemented with consultant support.

Section 4. Administration

Each of the Military Services and the Office of the Secretary of Defense will provide staff support, as needed, for the duration of the Housing Revitalization Support Office (HRSO). Funds to execute housing contracts and funds for HRSO administrative purposes, e.g. travel, studies and consultant support, will be provided from the Department of Defense Housing Improvement Fund, as established by the Military Housing Revitalization Act of 1995. The DoD Housing Improvement Fund will be centrally managed by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Economic Security in conjunction with the DoD Comptroller.

This charter will expire five years from the date of enactment of the Act or when the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Economic Security determines it is no longer required.