

which persons of low income can afford and that such persons are forced to occupy overcrowded and congested dwelling accommodations; that the aforesaid conditions cause an increase in and spread of disease and crime and constitute a menace to health, safety, morals and welfare of the residents of the State and impair economic values; that these conditions necessitate excessive and disproportionate expenditures of public funds for crime prevention and punishment, public health and safety, fire and accident protection, and other public services and facilities; (b) That these slum areas cannot be cleared, nor can the shortage of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons of low income be relieved, through the operation of private enterprise, and that the construction of housing projects for persons of low income (as herein defined) would therefore not be competitive with private enterprise; (c) That the clearance, re-planning and reconstruction of the areas in which insanitary or unsafe housing conditions exist and the providing of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations for persons of low income are public uses and purposes for which public money may be spent and private property acquired; that it is in the public interest that work on such projects be commenced as soon as possible in order to relieve unemployment which now constitutes an emergency; and the necessity in the public interest for the provisions hereinafter enacted, is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination.

3. The following terms, wherever used or referred to in this Article, shall have the following respective meanings, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

(a) "Authority" or "Housing Authority" shall mean any of the public corporations created by Section 4 or Section 23 of this Article.

(b) "City" shall mean any incorporated city or town, having a population of more than 1,000 (according to the last Federal or State census). "The city" shall mean the particular city for which a particular housing authority is created.

(c) "Governing body" shall mean, the council, commissioners, or other legislative body of the city.

(d) "Mayor" shall mean the Mayor of the city or the officer thereof charged with the duties customarily imposed on the Mayor or executive head of the city.

(e) "Clerk" shall mean the clerk of the city, or the officer charged with the duties customarily imposed on such clerk.

(f) "Area of Operation" of a housing authority of a city shall include such city and the area within ten miles of the territorial boundaries thereof, but shall not include any area which lies within the territorial boundaries of any other city as defined herein.