programs, is operated by the Department pursuant to the Intergovernmental Relations Act of 1968. In order to comply with Federal requirements for intergovernmental coordination, all applicants for State or Federal grants must first submit to the State Clearinghouse, in accordance with the Project Notification and Review System, a statement of intent to apply for such a grant, in order that the proposed work may be reviewed to assure consistency with comprehensive State, regional and local plans and for environmental impact. During this review the comments of all State, regional and local agencies are coordinated to assure compatability, improve design quality, and resolve conflicts early in the planning process. During Fiscal Year 1971, the Clearinghouse coordinated 335 requests for Federal grants, at an increasing rate which reached 53 in June 1971. The second function of the State Clearinghouse is to act as the designated State Central Information Reception Agency to receive information on all Federal grants made within the State. This information is in turn compiled and made available to interested officials and agencies of the State and its subdivisions.

## State Planning Commission

The State Planning Commission constitutes an Advisory Board for the Department of State Planning. The Commission consists of nine members, each serving four-year terms. Seven members representing the public are appointed by the Governor; an ex-officio member of the State Senate appointed by the President of the Senate; and an exofficio member of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker. Members are selected as far as possible to reflect different broad geographic, economic and social interests in the State. The Chairman of the Commission is designated by the Governor.

The State Planning Commission advises and reports to the Secretary of State Planning on all matters submitted to it by the Secretary, such as the State Development Plan. It may also consider current operations and activities of the Department, the needs of the State for further development, the establishment of regional or metropolitan planning areas, the effectiveness of the Department and its planning activities, and the public awareness and understanding of the objectives and functions of State and local planning. The Commission may establish such sub-committees as may be necessary, and may with the approval of the Secretary of State Planning, hold private or public hearings, and sponsor public forums in any part of the State whenever it deems it necessary or useful in connection with its advisory functions (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, secs. 226-228; 1964 Repl. Vol., 1971 Supp., Art. 88C, secs. 1-11).

Appropriations	1971	1972
General FundsStaff: 80.	\$918,773	\$999,884

## DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Rita C. Davidson,

Secretary of Employment and Social Services

Don O. Nave, Director, Bureau of Administration Werner H. Fornos, Director, Bureau of Field Services