

The Agency is responsible for the development of a coordinated statewide system of comprehensive health planning, to pursue the goal of the highest level of physical and mental health in the most healthful environment for the citizens of Maryland. The Agency is particularly responsible for the coordination of planning for utilization of money, manpower and facilities in both the private and public sectors of the health industry of the State. The Agency sets forth policies and procedures which are designed to provide for comprehensive State planning for health services (public and private) including the facilities and persons required for the provision for such services, to meet the health needs of the State. The Agency also encourages cooperative efforts among governmental or non-governmental health, education, welfare, and rehabilitation agencies, organizations and groups concerned with or affecting health services, facilities or manpower.

Chapter 222 of the Acts of 1968 vests regulatory power over licensure of hospitals and non-profit related institutions, which is carried out through the Certification of Conformance Program (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. 1973 Supp., Vol., Art. 43, sec. 559 (a-1)).

The same Act created an Advisory Council on Comprehensive Health Planning. The forty-three member Council consists of representatives of State and local agencies and non-governmental organizations and groups concerned with health, to advise the Agency in carrying out its functions. The majority of its members must be consumers rather than providers of health care. Members serve three-year terms (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, sec. 59C).

Appropriations	1973	1974
General Funds	\$389,939	\$399,988
Staff: 1973, 14; Staff: 1974, 18.		

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

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The Environmental Health Administration directs the efforts to safeguard the public health against potential threats arising from environmental deterioration and improper food and drug handling procedures. These programs are conducted by the Administration's three Bureaus — Air Quality Control, Community Health Protection and Consumer Health Protection.

The Bureau of Air Quality Control has developed implementation plans in conformance with the Federal Clean Air Act of 1970 to achieve and maintain National ambient air quality standards. A vigorous enforcement program is under way. The Bureau also monitors the air through Statewide sampling stations.

The Bureau of Community Health Protection consists of the following:

The Division of General Sanitation is responsible for residential sanitation, including onsite water supplies, sewage disposal, and subdivision of land; recreational sanitation, including camps, swimming pools, and bathing beaches; hygiene of housing and migrant labor facilities; and certification of shellfish producing waters.

The Division of Solid Waste Control functions as a regulatory unit to ensure solid waste activities are planned, designed, and operated in accordance with State laws and acceptable engineering practice.

The Division of Water and Sewerage conducts the control programs directed toward assurance of safe potable water supplies and adequate treatment of sewage. The Division also has responsibility for training