

provide for the regulation and control of rent for housing accommodations within their respective jurisdictions. As used in this Article, "housing accommodation" means any building or structure, permanent or temporary, or any part thereof, occupied or intended to be occupied by one or more individuals as a residence, home, sleeping place, boarding house or lodging house, together with the land and buildings appurtenant thereto, and all services, privileges, furnishings, furniture and facilities supplied in connection with the occupation thereof, but does not include a hospital, hotel, convent, monastery, asylum, public institution, or college or school dormitory.

(b) The ordinance or resolution passed or adopted by the Mayor and City Council of any city or by the County Commissioners of any county, under authority of this Article, may create a Rent Control Commission to regulate and establish rents for housing accommodations or may designate an existing city or county department, office or agency to exercise such authority. Such ordinance or resolution may authorize such Commission, department, office or agency to make such studies and investigations, to conduct such hearings, and to obtain such information as is deemed necessary in prescribing regulations or orders relative to rents.

(c) For the purposes of this Article, the Mayor and City Council of every city and the County Commissioners of every county shall have and may exercise within their respective jurisdictions all the power commonly known as the Police Power to the same extent as the State has or could exercise said power and, in the exercise of said power, may, by ordinance or resolution, prescribe and establish the conditions under which evictions from housing accommodations may be made and the repossession of same may be accomplished, any other law to the contrary notwithstanding. Such ordinance or resolution may confer such power and authority upon a commission, department, office or agency to the same extent as the General Assembly of Maryland has the power to confer upon any commission, department, office or agency of the State as to the regulation and control of rents of housing accommodations, including practices relating to changes in form or quality.

3. In order to make effective the power and authority conferred by this Article, the Mayor and City Council of any city and the County Commissioners of any county which undertake to exercise the power hereby granted,