

**Department of Housing and Community Development – Maryland Housing Rehabilitation Program**

FOR the purpose of providing a legislative finding that existing large rental housing facilities for low and moderate income persons in the State are in need of rehabilitation and the retention of such facilities in a decent, safe, and sanitary condition is a proper public purpose for which public money may be expended; removing a certain limit on the number of dwelling units in a building; clarifying that the Regular Rehabilitation Program and the Special Rehabilitation Program operate with moneys in the Special Loan Programs Fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Housing Rehabilitation Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development  
Section 2-301 ~~and~~, 2-302(c), and 2-313(h)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1988 Replacement Volume and 1989 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development**

2-301.

The General Assembly finds and declares:

(1) That many residents of the State are living in dwelling units which do not conform to building, health, safety, fire, occupancy or other codes and standards applicable to housing, that many communities or political subdivisions in the State do not have a minimum livability code and that these conditions impede the development and maintenance of healthy, safe, and viable communities in the State;

(2) That owner-occupants of housing in need of rehabilitation are frequently of low income, that nonoccupant owners of such housing frequently incur high risks in its ownership and management, and that financing by the private sector is therefore frequently not available to accomplish necessary and desirable rehabilitation;

(3) That the rehabilitation of suitable housing will increase its economic life, is often more economical and less disruptive than replacement of the housing and the relocation of its occupants, can better promote community development when conducted through organized housing rehabilitation programs, is essential to promote sound community development in the State, and can be facilitated by the rehabilitation of commercial building serving communities where housing rehabilitation is desirable;

(4) That the rehabilitation of housing, the development of healthy, safe, and viable communities in the State, and the rehabilitation of commercial buildings to facilitate the rehabilitation and development of housing are a proper public purpose for which public money may be expended and property may be acquired;