

toxicology, chemistry, epidemiology, and other related scientific disciplines;

(7) Establish and maintain communication and collaboration with existing agencies, such as the [National Bureau of Standards] NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY, involved in programs related to the health effects of fire;

(8) Encourage and facilitate interest in fire-related issues at the educational institutions located in the State;

(9) In accordance with the State budget, provide funding for pilot studies addressing issues or factors affecting injuries or health effects of fire;

(10) Apply for federal or private research grants to investigate issues relating to the health effects of fire;

(11) Solicit and follow the recommendations of the Advisory Council concerning future activities or projects of the Center; and

(12) Provide staff support to the Advisory Council, as needed.

Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development

6-201.

It is found and declared that with the acceleration in development of new materials, processes and assemblies of building components, manufactured buildings, and subassemblies, and the increased use of temporary and mobile structures, there is a need for a statewide building regulatory system.

It is further found and declared that until the recent increase in demand, for use of temporary and mobile structures, the present system with its essentially local building regulatory departments has done a creditable job protecting the health and safety of the people in their respective communities.

It is further found and declared that this new demand calls for more in depth performance evaluations in terms of the intent of the building regulations and inspection services; these evaluations usually involve going beyond the boundaries of local units of government and require the assistance of the State.

It is further found and declared that local officials in Maryland possess great knowledge and insight in this field and are aware of the needs for modification, and their cooperation in developing, applying and refining a satisfactory program is essential; similarly, there is a great opportunity to cooperate with sister states, with organizations that have published widely used model building codes, standards of regulations, and with other similarly engaged agencies, such as the [U.S. National Bureau of Standards] NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.

It is further found and declared that such cooperation shall be an integral element in the application and enforcement of this statewide program.