

Comptroller; Provided, that no such lien shall be enforced against any real estate of the recipient while it is occupied by the recipient's surviving spouse.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That Sections 16, 17, 18, 19 and 21 of Article 70-A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, 1935, Supplement, title "Old Age Pensions," be, and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That two new sections be, and the same are hereby added to Article 70-A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1935 Supplement) title "Old Age Pensions," to follow immediately after Section 7, to be known as Sections 7-A and 7-B, and to read as follows:

7-A. The Local Board of each County and the Department of Welfare of Baltimore City shall require as a condition to granting a pension in any case, that the applicant submit a properly acknowledged agreement to reimburse the State and the County for all assistance granted. In such agreement the applicant shall assign as collateral security for assistance, such part of his personal property as the Local unit shall require.

(a) If the local unit shall deem it necessary, it may require as a condition for granting of a pension in any case, that any or all property in which the applicant has an interest be disposed of or be transferred to said local unit. Such property if so transferred, shall be managed by the local unit under rules and regulations of the Board of State Aid and Charities. The local unit shall have the power to sell or lease or transfer such property, and defend or prosecute all suits concerning it and to pay all such claims against it and to do all things necessary for the protection, preservation and management thereof, and shall pay the net income thereof to the applicant.

(b) If the pension granted to an applicant is discontinued during his lifetime, any property transferred to the local unit pursuant to Paragraph (a) hereof, shall be returned to him subject to a lien on such property for any sum paid him as assistance under this title, or the remainder of such property, after deducting therefrom the sums paid as assistance, shall be returned to him. In the event of his death, the remainder of such property after deducting therefrom the sums paid to him as assistance, shall be