

County (1957 Edition), being Article 13 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, title "Harford County", sub-title "County Commissioners", as said section was enacted by Chapter 300 of the Acts of 1963, be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

216B.

(a) The Board of County Commissioners of Harford County is hereby authorized to establish a Citizens Nursing Home Board of Harford County; and if it shall establish such a board, it shall be constituted and controlled as follows:

[(a)] The Board shall consist of ten members; and the initial members shall be appointed by the County Commissioners, three members to be appointed for three years, three for two years, three for one year. Members shall be chosen from among the residents of the county. The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners shall be a member of the Board ex officio. As the terms of the initial appointees expire or as vacancies occur, their successors shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board for terms of three years or the remainder thereof; and thereafter, these positions shall be so filled.

(b) The members of the Board shall serve without compensation.

(c) The Board shall establish, maintain, and operate a nursing or convalescent home or homes and any other facilities and services necessary for the proper care and treatment of aged, convalescent, and chronically ill residents of the county and shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To accept gifts, legacies, bequests or endowments for purposes of the Board. Unless otherwise specified by the donor making such gift, legacy, bequest or endowment, the Board, in its discretion, may expend both principal and income of any such gift, bequest, legacy or endowment to support the Board's nursing home program;

(2) To acquire and hold real and personal property in the name of the County Commissioners by any means, to sell or otherwise dispose of such property so acquired, and to preserve and administer such properties;

(3) To provide adequate facilities and services for the care and treatment of the aged, convalescent, and chronically ill citizens of the county. These facilities and services will or may include physical care, medical, nursing, recreational, rehabilitative, special education, and other similar activities, and, in addition, dissemination of information relative to causes and prevention of chronic and debilitating illnesses;

(4) To charge such fees for admission to and maintenance in such facilities and for use of such services as may support the facilities and services subject, however, to the provision that where aged, convalescent, and chronically ill residents of the county are in need of such facilities and services and are sufficiently impecunious as to be unable to pay the full cost of such care, then the charges to such residents shall be in direct proportion to their ability to pay for the services;

(5) To apply all monies, assets, property or other things of value it may receive to the general purposes of the Board;