

relating generally to powers, duties, functions and responsibilities of the State Department of Public Welfare and of the local departments of public welfare.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 11 of Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume and 1966 Supplement), title "State Department of Public Welfare," subtitle "In General," be and it is hereby repealed.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That Sections 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 27 and 29 of Article 30 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition and 1966 Supplement), title "Deaf, Mute or Blind," subtitle "Public Assistance to the Needy Blind," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 30

Public Assistance to the Needy Blind

11.

As used in this subtitle "State Department" means the State Department of Public Welfare, created under Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and any amendments thereto or supplements thereof.

["County board" means the county welfare board of the several counties in this State or the department of public welfare of Baltimore City, created and existing under Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland and any amendments thereto or supplements thereof.]

"Local units" means the local welfare departments in the counties and in Baltimore City created or continued under the provisions of Section 13 of said Article 88A, and any amendments thereto or supplements thereof.

"County" shall be construed to include the City of Baltimore, unless otherwise specified or unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Applicant" means a person who has applied for public assistance under this subtitle.

"Recipient" means any person who is receiving, or who at any time has received, public assistance under this subtitle.

"Public assistance" means money payments to needy blind individuals and payments necessary for services for such individuals.

12.

The State Department shall:

(a) Supervise the administration of assistance to the needy blind under this [article by the county boards] subtitle by the local units;

(b) Make such rules and regulations and take such action as may be necessary or desirable for carrying out the provisions of this [article] subtitle. Such rules and regulations shall recognize that the needs and problems of blind persons are special to them and may