

buildings by the State or any political subdivision thereof, except those plans and specifications for buildings to be used by the penal institutions of the State or the political subdivision, shall provide facilities for the handicapped. The plans and specifications shall conform to the most recently published standards of the American Standards Association as contained in the booklet entitled "American Standard Specifications for Making Buildings and Facilities Accessible to and Usable by the Physically Handicapped," as amended or supplemented from time to time.

(b) In this subtitle, "Public building" means a building structure or improved area owned or constructed for lease by this State or its political subdivisions.

"Handicapped person" means a person with a measurable limitation of mobility due to congenital defect, disease, or trauma.

"Facility for handicapped persons" includes any ramp, handrail, elevator, door, specially treated surface and similar design, convenience, or device which facilitates the health, safety, or comfort of a handicapped person.

(c) Public buildings which lack facilities for handicapped persons (1) create a substantial risk of death or injury with respect to handicapped persons and others in normal conditions and in the event of fire, panic, or other emergency; and (2) impair the full use and enjoyment of public buildings by handicapped persons for education, treatment, training, employment, or recreation.

(d) Not later than July 1, 1968, the Board of Public Works, through the Department of Public Improvements, shall publish the standards of minimum requirements for facilities for handicapped persons in public buildings; "Standards to conform to American Standards Association specification A 117.1-1961 as modified BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS in cooperation with Governor's Study Group on Vocational Rehabilitation." The standards shall not require facilities for the handicapped in portions of public buildings which are not open to or used by the general working force or by the general public. The design of public buildings by the State and by its political subdivisions shall be regulated by the provisions of this Act upon and after July 1, 1968.

(e) By January 1, 1969, the appropriate contracting authority shall determine that the plans and specifications of every public building which the State or any political subdivision, governmental entity or public authority constructs conforms to this subtitle.

(f) The standards shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

(g) The provisions of this subtitle shall apply to improvement of areas used for gathering or amusement such as public parks, recreation centers, and the like; particularly with regard to toilet facilities, ramps, building entrances, drinking fountains, parking, and walks. Such facilities should be suitably marked by a symbol denoting "usable by the physically disabled."

(h) The provisions of this subtitle shall apply to all educational facilities constructed with public funds or owned and/or operated by the State or its political subdivisions.

(i) The provisions of this subtitle shall apply to public transportation accommodations supported by public funds (such as