

land (1967 Supplement), title "State Department of Public Welfare," subtitle "Old Age Assistance," amending the Public Welfare laws in order to correct erroneous references therein.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 71, 73, 77, 78, 80 and 82 of Article 88A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Supplement), title "State Department of Public Welfare," subtitle "Old Age Assistance," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

71. Granting of assistance.

Upon the completion of such investigation the local unit shall decide whether the applicant is eligible for assistance under the provisions of this [article] subtitle, and determine in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Department the amount of such assistance and the date on which such assistance shall begin. The local unit shall notify the applicant of its decision. Such assistance shall be paid monthly to the applicant upon order of the local unit from funds allocated to it for this purpose. Should the fund or funds available be insufficient to make payments in accordance with the amount of assistance established to be needed, the State Department shall, by rule and regulation, provide for a uniform method of adjusting individual payments.

73. Assistance not assignable.

Assistance granted under this [article] subtitle shall not be transferable or assignable, at law or in equity, and none of the money paid or payable under this [article] subtitle shall be subject to execution, levy, attachment, garnishment or other legal process, or to the operation of any bankruptcy or insolvency law.

77. Recovery from estate.

On the death of any recipient, the total amount of assistance paid under this [article] subtitle shall be allowed as a claim against the estate. The net amount realized from all such claims shall be divided among the State, the county, and the federal government in proportion to the amount of the assistance paid by each respectively; provided, that no such claim shall be enforced against any real estate of a recipient while it is occupied by the recipient's surviving spouse or dependents.

78. Removal to another county.

Any applicant who has moved into the county in which he applies within one year prior to application, shall be deemed, for all purposes of this [article] subtitle, a resident of the county in which he last had one year's continuous residence. Change of county residence within the State shall have no effect upon the eligibility of an aged person.

80. No fees to be paid.

No person shall make any charge or receive any fee for representing an applicant or recipient of assistance in any proceeding hereunder, or with respect to any application, whether such fee or