

(2) Hold public hearings, conduct investigations and require the filing of information relating to any matter affecting the cost of services in all institutions subject to the provisions of this subtitle and to subpoena witnesses, papers, records and documents in connection therewith. The executive director may administer oaths or affirmations in any hearing or investigation.

(3) Exercise, subject to the limitations and restrictions herein imposed, all other powers which are reasonably necessary or essential to carry out the expressed objects and purposes of this subtitle.

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a. Whenever a further investigation is deemed necessary or desirable to verify the accuracy of the information in the reports made by institutions under this subtitle, the Commission shall have the authority to make any necessary further examination of the institution's records and accounts as the Commission may by regulation provide. Such further examinations under this section may include, but are not limited to, requiring a full or partial audit of all such records and [account] *accounts*.

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b. In carrying out the duties prescribed by this [subsection] *subtitle*, the Commission may utilize its own staff or may contract with any appropriate, independent, qualified third party.

No such contractor shall release or publish or otherwise use any information made available to it under its contractual responsibility unless such permission is specifically granted by the Commission.

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It shall be unlawful for any person who does not possess a permit from the Secretary to bring into, send into, or receive into the State of Maryland for sale, to offer for sale therein, give away or have in storage any milk products defined by law or regulation in this subtitle. Provided, that, grocery stores, restaurants, soda fountains, and similar establishments where milk products are served or sold at retail shall be exempt from this permit when such milk products are received from a permitted processor. Further, that, each such establishment shall comply with all applicable provisions of this subtitle or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder. Only a person who complies with the requirements of this subtitle or of any rule or regulation issued thereunder shall be entitled to receive and retain a permit.

A permit is required for every (1) bobtailer, (2) distribution station, (3) milk plant, (4) receiving station, (5) transfer station, (6) milk truck tank operator, (7) producer-distributor (provided that, the sale of raw milk for human consumption shall be prohibited with the exception of those producer-distributors in business and holding a permit on the effective date of this law. Provided further, that the sale of raw milk for human consumption in Baltimore City shall be prohibited), (8) producer, with exception to those producers [or] of milk supplies approved by the Secretary qualifying under Section 580. Provided further, that, truck tank operator permits