

according to the provisions of this subtitle. PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION AND PROMULGATION OF PROPOSED PLANS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE SHALL SUBMIT THEM TO THE OFFICE ON AGING FOR ITS [[COMMENT AND GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO ITS COMMENTS]] RECOMMENDATIONS.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 84 and 86 of Article 88A - Social Services Administration, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 88A - Social Services Administration

84.

It is declared the policy of the State of Maryland that the elderly persons of the State should have access to a comprehensive range of community services to enable them to remain in their own homes and other independent living arrangements, consistent with their desires, abilities, and safety. To implement this policy, the Department of Employment and Social Services, with the advice [of the Commission on Aging and the assistance of] AND ASSISTANCE OF THE OFFICE ON AGING AND the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, is responsible for the administration of a system of community services for the elderly that will serve as an effective alternative to any inappropriate institutional care for the elderly. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the community services under this program be available to all elderly persons, but that those elderly persons who are financially able to do so shall pay all or a portion of the costs thereof.

86.

The Department of Employment and Social Services with the ADVICE AND cooperation of the OFFICE ON AGING AND THE Department of Health and Mental Hygiene [and the advice of the State Commission on Aging], shall develop a program to carry out the purposes of this subheading, including the training of persons to perform community services for elderly persons. In implementing this program, the Department of Employment and Social Services, or its designee, shall:

(1) Adopt rules and regulations for implementation of the program, including standards and means for reimbursement from elderly persons financially able to pay for all or part of the services provided under the