

mobile structures, there is a need for a statewide building regulatory system.

It is further found and declared that until the recent increase in demand, for use of temporary and mobile structures, the present system with its essentially local building regulatory departments has done a creditable job protecting the health and safety of the people in their respective communities.

It is further found and declared that this new demand calls for more in depth performance evaluations in terms of the intent of the building regulations and inspection services; these evaluations usually involve going beyond the boundaries of local units of government and require the assistance of the State.

It is further found and declared that local officials in Maryland possess great knowledge and insight in this field and are aware of the needs for modification, and their cooperation in developing, applying and refining a satisfactory program is essential; similarly, there is a great opportunity to cooperate with sister states, with organizations that have published widely-used model building codes, standards of regulations, and with other similarly engaged agencies, such as the U.S. National Bureau of Standards.

It is further found and declared that such cooperation shall be an integral element in the application and enforcement of this statewide program.

IT IS FURTHER FOUND AND DECLARED THAT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF MARYLAND RESIDENTS WILL BE PROTECTED BEST BY THE STATE ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCEMENT WITHIN MARYLAND OF THE FEDERAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY STANDARDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL LAW ESTABLISHING THE STANDARDS.

266EE-2.

(a) "Approved testing facility" means an architect or professional engineer, whose registration is accepted by Maryland, or a testing organization, determined by the Department to be specifically qualified by reason of facilities, personnel, experience and demonstrated reliability, to investigate, test, and evaluate industrialized buildings [and mobile homes,] or [the] THEIR component parts [thereof]; to list such units complying with standards promulgated by the Department; to provide adequate follow-up services at the point of manufacture to insure that production units are in full compliance; and to provide a label, seal or other evidence of compliance on each unit.

(b) "Department" means Department of Economic and Community Development.