

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 168A(1) of Chapter 844, of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1961 be and it is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That new Section 168A(1) be and it is hereby added to Chapter 844, of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1961 to read as follows:

Chapter 844

168A.

1. DEFINITIONS

(A) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "FEDERAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OR ANY AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY, CORPORATE OR OTHERWISE, OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(C) "SLUM AREA" MEANS ANY AREA WHERE DWELLINGS PREDOMINATE WHICH, BY REASON OF DEPRECIATION, OVERCROWDING, FAULTY ARRANGEMENT OR DESIGN, LACK OF VENTILATION, LIGHT OR SANITARY FACILITIES, OR ANY COMBINATION OF THESE FACTORS, ARE DETRIMENTAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH OR MORALS.

(D) "BLIGHTED AREA" MEANS AN AREA IN WHICH A MAJORITY OF BUILDINGS HAVE DECLINED IN PRODUCTIVITY BY REASON OF OBSOLESCENCE, DEPRECIATION OR OTHER CAUSES TO AN EXTENT THEY NO LONGER JUSTIFY FUNDAMENTAL REPAIRS AND ADEQUATE MAINTENANCE.

(E) "URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT" MEANS UNDERTAKINGS AND ACTIVITIES OF A MUNICIPALITY IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA FOR THE ELIMINATION AND FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OR SPREAD OF SLUMS AND BLIGHT, AND MAY INVOLVE SLUM CLEARANCE AND REDEVELOPMENT IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA, OR REHABILITATION OR CONSERVATION IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA, OR ANY COMBINATION OR PART OF THEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN URBAN RENEWAL PLAN. THESE UNDERTAKINGS AND ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE:

(1) ACQUISITION OF A SLUM AREA OR A BLIGHTED AREA OR PORTION OF THEM;

(2) DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS;

(3) INSTALLATION, CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF STREETS, UTILITIES, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY FOR CARRYING OUT THE URBAN RENEWAL OBJECTIVES OF THIS SUBHEADING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN;