

FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Human Resources to establish and maintain ~~shelter homes~~ a regional model shelter home for "battered spouses" and their children; limiting the extent of funding for the model shelter home; providing for certain charges to be paid by users of the model shelter home; requiring certain studies to be conducted by the Secretary of Human Resources; and generally relating to "battered spouses".

BY adding to

Article 88A - Social Services Administration
Section 101 through ~~404~~ 105, inclusive, to be
under the new subtitle "Battered Spouses -
Shelter"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1969 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Sections 101 through ~~404~~ 105, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Battered Spouses - Shelter" be and they are hereby added to Article 88A - Social Services Administration, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 88A - Social Services Administration

BATTERED SPOUSES - SHELTER

101.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT AN INCREASING NUMBER OF PERSONS KNOWN AS BATTERED SPOUSES ARE FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES TO INSURE THEIR LIFE, SAFETY, AND WELFARE. THESE BATTERED SPOUSES AND THEIR CHILDREN VERY OFTEN HAVE NO PLACE TO LIVE. THEY HAVE NO INDEPENDENT SOURCE OF INCOME AND AS A RESULT ARE ECONOMICALLY DEPENDENT ON THEIR ABUSING SPOUSES.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT UNTIL RECENTLY, THESE BATTERED SPOUSES HAVE BEEN IGNORED. AS A RESULT, THERE IS A LACK OF QUALITY EMERGENCY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HOUSING AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE A PLACE TO LIVE FOR THESE HOMELESS VICTIMS AND THEIR CHILDREN.

THE INTENTION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS TO ~~PROVIDE NECESSARY HOUSING TO THOSE BATTERED SPOUSES~~ ESTABLISH A MODEL SHELTER HOME TO PROVIDE NECESSARY TEMPORARY HOUSING FOR THOSE BATTERED SPOUSES AND THEIR CHILDREN MADE HOMELESS BY THE ABUSE.

102.

AS USED IN THIS SUBTITLE, "BATTERED SPOUSE" MEANS AN