

recipients of public assistance, medical assistance, food stamps, or social services to restrict the use of the information to administration of these programs or, under certain conditions, to research; removing reference to obsolete programs; and otherwise clarifying the provisions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 88A - Social Services Administration  
Section 6  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1979 Replacement Volume and 1979 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 88A - Social Services Administration

6.

[(1)] (A) Except in accordance with [proper judicial or legislative order] A COURT ORDER [and] OR ~~except to an officer of the State, or the United States, having a right thereto in his official capacity,~~ FOR PURPOSES DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, [except] to an AUTHORIZED officer OR EMPLOYEE of the State, or the United States, having a right thereto in his official capacity, AND AS NECESSARY TO DISCHARGE RESPONSIBILITIES TO ADMINISTER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, OR SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to divulge or make known in any manner [the names of, the amounts paid to, or] any [other] information concerning[, persons applying] ANY APPLICANT for or [receiving] RECIPIENT OF social services, child welfare services, CASH ASSISTANCE, [general assistance, old age assistance, aid to the blind, aid to families with dependent children, or aid to the permanently and totally disabled] FOOD STAMPS, OR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, directly or indirectly derived from the records, papers, files, investigations or communications of the State, county or city, or subdivisions or agencies thereof, or acquired in the course of the performance of official duties.

[(2)] (B) Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the publication, FOR ADMINISTRATIVE OR RESEARCH PURPOSES, of statistics OR OTHER DATA so classified as to prevent the identification of particular persons or cases[, or to prohibit the disclosure of information concerning particular persons or cases, for purposes of administration and in accordance with the regulations of the State Department, to the officials of this State, the counties thereof, the United States, or any other state].