

-f-709.

(a) The Secretary, with the assistance and advice of the Commissioner and ~~a local correctional representative~~ THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD from each county, shall develop and adopt minimum State standards for centers. These standards shall include criteria and guidelines for:

- (1) The siting of the centers;
- (2) The physical characteristics of the centers, including design and layout;
- (3) Programs and staffing;
- (4) Screening procedures with respect to placements in the centers;
- (5) Accounting, reporting, and accountability;
- and
- (6) General program and management operations.

(b) These standards shall be deemed to be rules and regulations, and the Secretary shall comply with the Administrative Procedure Act, the State Documents Law, and other applicable laws in their development ~~and adoption,~~ ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT. -}-

709.

~~CENTERS--SHALL-MEET-STANDARDS-DEVELOPED-BY-THE-MARYLAND COMMISSION-ON-CORRECTIONAL--STANDARDS--AND--ADOPTED--BY--THE SECRETARY.---FACILITY--AUDITS--TO-INSURE-COMPLIANCE-SHALL-BE ACCOMPLISHED-BY-THE-COMMISSION.~~

710.

~~(a)--If-the-Secretary--determines--and--certifies--that there-is-a-present-need-for-a-center-in-a-county-or multi-county-region, the-county-or-counties-in-the-region shall-promptly-inaugurate-and-pursue-appropriate-procedures to-select-a-suitable-site-for-the-center. The-Secretary shall-cooperate-with-and-assist-the-county-or-counties-in the-selection-of-a-site-which-will-be-consistent-with-the standards-adopted-pursuant-to-§-709. Before-selecting-a site, the-county-governing-body-shall-hold-at-least-one public-hearing-in-the-county-in-which-one-or-more-sites-are proposed.~~

~~(b)--Each-county-is-authorized-to-acquire,--by--lease, purchase,--or--otherwise,--including-condemnation,--facilities and-sites-for-facilities-located-in-the-county,--for-use-as-a center. This-authority-includes-the-authority--to--construct and--renovate--facilities--on--sites-acquired-by-the-county. However,--the-county-shall-not-exercise-the-authority-granted in-this-section-unless-the-Secretary-has-determined-that~~