

reference to the "community" is substituted for the ambiguous phrase "their county of origin". This substitution is based on the Mental Retardation Administration's interpretation of that former phrase.

In subsection (b)(2)(i) of this section, the reference to the governing body of "each county" is substituted for the reference to "the county or counties comprising a region", since more than one county would not have a "governing body". Similarly, in subsection (c) of this section, the former reference to a "multicounty region" is deleted since the appropriate recipient cannot be identified.

In subsection (b)(2)(v) of this section, reference to "county" boards of education is substituted for the reference to "local" boards, for clarity.

Defined terms: "County" § 1-101  
 "Group home" § 19-604 "Secretary" § 1-101  
 "Nonretarded developmentally disabled individual" § 19-604

19-607. SITE SELECTION BY COUNTIES.

(A) IN GENERAL.

(1) IF THE SECRETARY CERTIFIES THAT A GROUP HOME IS NEEDED IN A COUNTY OR MULTICOUNTY REGION, THE COUNTY OR THE COUNTIES IN THE REGION, IN CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL CONSUMER GROUPS, PROMPTLY SHALL CHOOSE A SITE THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER PART II OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(2) BEFORE SUBMITTING A PROPOSED SITE TO THE SECRETARY, THE GOVERNING BODY FOR THE COUNTY WHERE THE SITE IS LOCATED SHALL HOLD AT LEAST ONE PUBLIC HEARING IN THAT COUNTY TO ASSURE THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD ACCEPT THE GROUP HOME.

(B) COOPERATION OF SECRETARY.

THE SECRETARY SHALL COOPERATE WITH AND HELP THE COUNTY OR COUNTIES TO CHOOSE A SUITABLE SITE.

(C) DEFAULT BY COUNTY.

IF, WITHIN 9 MONTHS AFTER THE SECRETARY CERTIFIES A NEED FOR A GROUP HOME, A SUITABLE SITE IS NOT SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY, THE SECRETARY SHALL DECLARE THE COUNTY OR COUNTIES TO BE IN DEFAULT. HOWEVER, FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, THE SECRETARY MAY EXTEND THE 9-MONTH PERIOD FOR NOT MORE