

REVISOR'S NOTE TO SECTION: Former Article 59A, § 3(g), (h), and (u), which defined the terms "county", "Department", and "Secretary", is deleted as unnecessary in light of the similar definitions of those terms in § 1-101 of this article.

Former Article 59A, § 3(c), which defined "Board" to mean the "Board of Public Works", is deleted as unnecessary since reference to the Board of Public Works appears only twice in this title and, therefore, the full term is used. This deletion also allows the definition of "Board", in § 7-304 of this title, to mean a citizens' advisory board for a State facility.

Former Article 59A, § 3(o), which defined "parent" to mean a natural or adoptive parent, is deleted as unnecessary.

7-102. LEGISLATIVE POLICY.

TO ADVANCE THE PUBLIC INTEREST, IT IS THE POLICY OF THIS STATE:

(1) TO PROMOTE, PROTECT, AND PRESERVE THE HUMAN DIGNITY, CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES, SOCIAL WELL-BEING, AND GENERAL WELFARE OF MENTALLY RETARDED INDIVIDUALS IN THIS STATE;

(2) TO ENCOURAGE THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABILITY AND POTENTIAL OF EACH MENTALLY RETARDED INDIVIDUAL IN THIS STATE, NO MATTER HOW SEVERE THE DISABILITY;

(3) TO PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC SECURITY, STANDARD OF LIVING, AND MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT OF MENTALLY RETARDED INDIVIDUALS;

(4) TO FOSTER THE INTEGRATION OF MENTALLY RETARDED INDIVIDUALS INTO THE ORDINARY LIFE OF THE COMMUNITIES WHERE THESE INDIVIDUALS LIVE;

(5) TO RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF THOSE MENTALLY RETARDED INDIVIDUALS FOR WHOM CARE IN A RESIDENTIAL FACILITY IS NECESSARY TO LIVE IN SURROUNDINGS AS NEARLY NORMAL AS POSSIBLE AND TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FACILITIES FOR THIS PURPOSE;

(6) TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR THOSE MENTALLY RETARDED INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNABLE TO MANAGE THEMSELVES AND THEIR AFFAIRS WITH ORDINARY PRUDENCE;

(7) TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND TO HELP PARENTS AND GUARDIANS IN PLANNING FOR AND MANAGING MENTALLY RETARDED INDIVIDUALS;