

It is further found and declared that the counties and municipalities of this State do not have adequate resources to and the ordinary operations of private enterprise cannot without State assistance deal effectively with all of the problems of sound community development.

It is further found that a need exists to coordinate and concentrate federal, State, regional and local public and private community development efforts and resources.

It is further found and declared that there is a shortage of adequate, safe, and sanitary housing for families of limited income particularly, and that by increasing the housing supply for families of limited incomes this shortage will be alleviated and sound community development promoted.

It is further found and declared that the increase of opportunities for homeownership is desirable and promotes sound community development.

It is further found and declared that the reduction of the consumption of energy and the increase in the utilization of solar energy by the provision of financial assistance to encourage energy conservation and solar energy improvements to housing and buildings used for commercial purposes promotes sound community development and is otherwise in the public interest.

It is further found and declared that to promote sound community development is a proper public purpose and State use for which public money may be expended and property may be acquired, and that the functions and responsibilities of the Community Development Administration, MARYLAND HOUSING COMMISSION as hereinafter set forth are necessary and proper for the purpose of achieving the ends here recited.

(b) The Community Development Administration is hereby created as a division of the principal Department of Economic and Community Development (1) THERE IS A MARYLAND HOUSING COMMISSION CREATED FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

(I) to coordinate the various activities and programs which may contribute to sound community development;

(II) to encourage and facilitate the development of new and existing communities by reducing the costs of development through grants and loans;

(III) to encourage and facilitate energy conservation and the utilization of solar energy in housing and commercial buildings by providing grants, loans, and other forms of financial assistance, making available land for such development and by assisting the efforts of private enterprise, municipalities, counties, local public agencies and local development corporations; AND