

authorize a housing authority to function therein; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 44A - Housing Authorities

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In each city (as herein defined) of the State there is hereby created a public body corporate and politic to be known as the "housing authority" of the city; provided, however, that such authority or any entity which includes upon its purposes the provision of decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings for persons of low income whether or not citizens of the State shall not transact any business or exercise powers similar to these hereunder until or unless the governing body of the city by proper resolution, approved by the mayor, shall declare at any time hereafter that there is need for an authority to function in such city and authorize the authority or other entity to function in such city; AND THAT ANY HOUSING AUTHORITY AUTHORIZED TO FUNCTION PURSUANT TO ANY SUCH RESOLUTION SHALL DERIVE ITS AUTHORITY FROM SUCH RESOLUTION, RATHER THAN DIRECTLY FROM THIS SECTION, SINCE THIS SECTION IS INTENDED SOLELY AS ENABLING LEGISLATION PERMITTING THE CITY TO AUTHORIZE A HOUSING AUTHORITY TO FUNCTION THEREIN.

The governing body may adopt a resolution declaring that there is need for a housing authority in the city if it shall find (a) that insanitary or unsafe inhabited dwelling accommodations exist in such city or (b) that there is a shortage of safe or sanitary dwelling accommodations in such city available to persons of low income at rentals they can afford. In determining whether dwelling accommodations are unsafe or insanitary said governing body may take into consideration the degree of overcrowding, the percentage of land coverage, the light, air, space and access available to the inhabitants of such dwelling accommodations, the size and arrangement of the rooms, the sanitary facilities, and the extent to which conditions exist in such buildings which endanger life or property by fire or other causes.

In any suit, action or proceeding involving the validity or enforcement of or relating to any contract of the authority, the authority shall be conclusively deemed to have become established and authorized to transact business and exercise its powers hereunder upon proof of the adoption of a resolution by the governing body declaring the need for the authority and the approval of the resolution by the mayor thereof. Such resolution or resolutions shall be deemed sufficient if it declares that there is such need for an authority and finds in substantially the foregoing terms (no further detail being necessary) that either or both of the above enumerated conditions exist in the