

Article 70B - Department of Aging

4.

(d) With respect to assisted living programs, as defined under § 19-1801 of the Health - General Article, the Secretary shall:

(1) Develop assisted living programs for the elderly, in conjunction with any public or private profit or nonprofit corporation or any State or federal agency;

(2) Make maximum use of rent and other subsidies available from federal and State sources [and];

(3) [provide] PROVIDE for AND SET, BY REGULATION, THE AMOUNT OF subsidies necessary from State general funds to assist low income elderly individuals to reside in assisted living programs as an alternative to more costly, but not required, institutional care, including, when necessary and in accordance with available funds, monthly subsidies for residents of assisted living programs whose adjusted gross annual income is less than their cost of care for assisted living services[, provided that the subsidies meet the gap between income and cost of care to a maximum of \$650 per month];

[(3)](4) Find sponsors for assisted living programs;

[(4)](5) Assist developers in formulating design concepts and meeting program needs;

[(5)](6) When necessary and in accordance with available funds, provide subsidies for congregate meals, housekeeping, and personal services for assisted living programs and develop eligibility requirements in connection with these subsidies;

[(6)](7) Adopt regulations governing eligibility requirements for subsidies; and

[(7)](8) Review the compliance of assisted living programs with the regulations adopted by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene for licensing these programs to operate in the State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2006.

Approved May 2, 2006.