

STATE FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE FUND

45A.

IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(1) "COUNTY" INCLUDES BALTIMORE CITY.

(2) "EXPENDITURES FOR FIRE PROTECTION" OR "EXPEND FOR FIRE PROTECTION" MEANS COUNTY OR-MUNICIPAL REVENUES APPROPRIATED OR TO BE APPROPRIATED FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND THE PROCEEDS OF ANY COUNTY OR-MUNICIPAL BONDS USED TO FINANCE FACILITIES THAT HOUSE FIRE PROTECTION APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT. IT EXCLUDES SALARIES, WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, FRINGE BENEFITS, OR OTHER PERSONNEL, EXCEPT TRAINING, OR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. FOR FISCAL YEARS PRIOR TO FISCAL YEAR 1986, IT INCLUDES GRANTS APPROPRIATED TO A VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, OR AMBULANCE COMPANY FOR FIRE PROTECTION THAT ARE NOT ITEMIZED.

(3) "FIRE PROTECTION" INCLUDES RESCUE AND AMBULANCE SERVICES.

(4) "FUND" MEANS THE FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(5) "QUALIFIED MUNICIPALITY" MEANS ANY INCORPORATED CITY OR TOWN, EXCEPT BALTIMORE CITY, WITHIN THIS STATE WHOSE EXPENDITURES FOR FIRE PROTECTION FROM MUNICIPAL SOURCES EXCEEDS \$25,000.

(6) "SECRETARY" MEANS THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES.

45B.

(A) A STATE FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE FUND IS ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE:

(1) THE DELIVERY OF EFFECTIVE AND HIGH QUALITY FIRE PROTECTION, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE SERVICES TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE;

(2) INCREASED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE COMPANIES BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS; AND

(3) THE CONTINUED FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND AMBULANCE COMPANIES GIVEN THE GREATLY INCREASED COSTS OF APPARATUS AND OTHER TYPES OF EQUIPMENT.

(B) (1) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAW.

(2) THE SECRETARY MAY ADOPT PROCEDURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBTITLE INCLUDING ADDITIONAL AUDITING AND