

(C) REVIEW OF PLANNING AGENCIES.

BEFORE PROVIDING THE ASSISTANCE, THE SECRETARY SHALL CONSIDER THE ADEQUACY AND COMPETENCY OF ANY REGIONAL OR LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY THAT REQUESTS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

(D) SUBMISSION OF BUDGETS TO SECRETARY.

THE SECRETARY MAY REQUIRE ANY LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY THAT RECEIVES FINANCIAL OR OTHER PLANNING ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE TO SUBMIT TO THE SECRETARY A COPY OF ITS PLANNING BUDGET.

(E) AUDITS.

(1) THE SECRETARY MAY REQUIRE ANY LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY THAT RECEIVES FINANCIAL OR OTHER PLANNING ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE TO SUBMIT TO AN ANNUAL AUDIT OF ITS FINANCIAL OPERATIONS RELATED TO PLANNING.

(2) THE AUDIT SHALL BE PERFORMED BY THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR OR BY AN AUDITOR OR ACCOUNTANT LEGALLY QUALIFIED TO PERFORM MUNICIPAL AUDITS.

(3) THE SECRETARY MAY ACCEPT AN AUDIT BY THE FEDERAL UNIT FOR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT RECEIVES FINANCIAL OR OTHER PLANNING ASSISTANCE FROM A UNIT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

(F) REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.

WHENEVER THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS AND RECEIVES FINANCIAL OR OTHER ASSISTANCE FROM ANY UNIT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO A LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR A REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SATISFY ANY REQUIREMENT IMPOSED BY FEDERAL LAW.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Art. 88C, § 2(a) and the first clause of the first sentence of (i), and item (2) of the third sentence of § 1, and the first, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh sentences and the second clause of the second sentence of § 8.

Throughout this section, references to "local governments" are substituted for former language such as "county, municipal or other local governments, instrumentalities and planning agencies", for brevity and to conform to similar provisions elsewhere in this article.

In subsections (b) and (f) of this section, the word "agencies" is substituted for the former word "commissions", for clarity and consistency.