

(1) That many residents of Maryland are living in dwelling units which do not conform to building, health, safety, fire, occupancy or other codes and standards applicable to housing, THAT MANY COMMUNITIES OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS IN MARYLAND DO NOT HAVE A MINIMUM LIVABILITY CODE and that [this condition impedes] THESE CONDITIONS IMPEDE the development AND MAINTENANCE of healthy, safe, and viable communities in Maryland;

(2) That owner-occupants of housing in need of rehabilitation are frequently of low income, that nonoccupant owners of such housing frequently incur high risks in its ownership and management, and that financing by the private sector is therefore frequently not available to accomplish necessary and desirable rehabilitation;

(3) That the rehabilitation of suitable housing will increase its economic life, is often more economical and less disruptive than replacement of the housing and the relocation of its occupants, can better promote community development when conducted through organized housing rehabilitation programs, is essential to promote sound community development in the State, and can be facilitated by the rehabilitation of commercial building serving communities where housing rehabilitation is desirable;

(4) That the rehabilitation of housing, the development of healthy, safe, and viable communities in Maryland, and the rehabilitation of commercial buildings to facilitate the rehabilitation and development of housing are a proper public purpose and State use for which public money may be expended and property may be acquired; and

(5) That the provision of healthy and safe housing for migratory workers is necessary to maintain and expand the agricultural activities dependent on this source of labor and is a proper public purpose for which public money may be expended and property may be acquired.

(6) THAT THE SUPPLY OF HOUSING ADAPTED FOR USE BY SPECIAL POPULATIONS, SUCH AS THE ELDERLY, THE HANDICAPPED, OR OTHERWISE DISADVANTAGED CITIZENS OF MARYLAND IS INADEQUATE AND THEREFORE IMPROVEMENTS, MODIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO EXISTING HOUSING WHICH INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF SUCH SPECIAL HOUSING IS DESIRABLE AND A PROPER PUBLIC PURPOSE FOR WHICH PUBLIC MONEYS MAY BE EXPENDED.

(7) THAT LEAD PAINT IN OLDER HOUSING IS A MAJOR SOURCE OF LEAD POISONING IN CHILDREN IN THIS STATE AND THE PREVENTION OF LEAD POISONING BY MODIFYING SUCH HOUSING TO PROVIDE A LEAD-SAFE ENVIRONMENT IS DESIRABLE, AND A PROPER PUBLIC PURPOSE FOR WHICH PUBLIC MONEY MAY BE EXPENDED.

(8) THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS IN MARYLAND LACK COMPLETE OR FUNCTIONAL INDOOR WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLUMBING SYSTEMS, AND THAT IMPROVEMENTS TO THOSE