

(c) The State Treasurer shall hold and the State Comptroller shall account for the fund. The fund shall be invested and reinvested in the same manner as other State funds. Any investment earnings of the fund shall be paid into the General Fund of the State.

(d) The State may appropriate to the fund, in the State budget, all or part of the moneys received as repayments of principal or interest on all loans. The appropriation may be increased by budget amendment. [The amount of repayments so appropriated for the purpose of making loans may not exceed \$12,000,000 annually.] The State may not appropriate repayments of principal and interest to the program to the extent that loans expected to be made with moneys appropriated would cause the total principal amount of loans outstanding to exceed \$100,000,000.

(e) Money that is received as repayments of principal or interest on the loans and that is not appropriated in the State budget shall be:

(1) Credited to the Annuity Bond Fund, to be used to pay the principal of or interest on moneys borrowed by the State and appropriated to the program; or

(2) Paid into the General Fund of the State, to reimburse the State for administrative and other costs of the program previously paid from the fund.

(f) Prepayments of principal of a loan may be used to make additional loans under the program. Any moneys not so used within 12 months from the date of the receipt of such prepayment shall be applied as provided in subsection (e).

(g) On or before December 31 of each year, the Department shall report to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly the financial status of the program and a summary of its operations for the preceding fiscal year.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, for fiscal years 1987 and 1988 only, the Secretary of Economic and Community Development shall establish a rental allowance program. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to make grants as provided in this section.

(a) The Department shall administer a pilot program of financial assistance to lower income households by providing fixed monthly rental allowance payments to eligible households.

(b) The Secretary of Economic and Community Development shall establish: