

[(n)] (O) "Political subdivision" means any municipal corporation in Maryland subject to the provisions of Article XI-E of the Constitution, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, and any of the twenty-three counties in Maryland.

[(o)] (P) (1) "Rehabilitation project" means the repair, reconstruction, renovation, redevelopment, improvement, modification of, or addition to an existing building in order:

(i) To bring the building to a decent, safe, and sanitary condition in accordance with applicable construction, health, safety, fire, occupancy, and other codes and standards, to ensure that the building can be maintained in that condition, and to improve the general utility and attractiveness of the building; or

(ii) In the case of special loan programs, to provide shared, accessory, or sheltered housing, to provide for ~~lead-paint~~--RADON--GAS,--ASBESTOS,--OR LEAD PAINT abatement, to provide indoor plumbing, or to bring the building into conformance with a minimum livability code; OR

(III) IN THE CASE OF SPECIAL LOAN PILOT PROGRAMS, TO PROVIDE FOR RADON GAS AND ASBESTOS ABATEMENT.

(2) Except as provided in, §§ 2-304, 2-307, 2-308, and 2-309 of this subtitle, applicable codes and standards shall be those in force in the political subdivision where the building is located. If the political subdivision lacks codes and standards deemed sufficient by the Secretary to promote the objects of this section, the Department may by regulation prescribe codes and standards which shall apply in that subdivision solely for purposes of this section. The Secretary may allow exceptions to any code or standard, with the approval of the local enforcement authority when necessary to preserve the historic or architectural value of any building undergoing rehabilitation pursuant to this section.

(3) "Rehabilitation project" includes the provision of utility submetering for units in a residential rental building.

[(p)] (Q) "Shared housing" means a single-family, owner-occupied dwelling unit adapted for common and shared living use by the owner-occupant and another family of limited income.

[(q)] (R) "Sheltered housing" means a single-family, owner-occupied dwelling that accommodates the owner-occupant and provides sleeping and living facilities, meals and assistance with daily activities for a rental fee to not more than 15 elderly, disabled, or handicapped persons residing in the dwelling.