

report to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before January 1 of each year, setting forth the results of any studies and its recommendations, if any, for legislation; and

[(4)] (19) Subject to § 2 of this article, appoint a deputy director on aging.

[(c)] (B) With respect to the sheltered housing for elderly, the Director shall:

(1) Develop sheltered housing for the elderly, in conjunction with any public or private profit or nonprofit corporation or any State or federal agency;

(2) Make maximum use of rent and other subsidies available from federal and State sources and provide for subsidies necessary from State general funds to assist low income aged to reside in sheltered housing as an alternative to more costly, but not required, institutional care. Find sponsors or managers for sheltered housing projects;

(3) Assist developers in formulating design concepts and meeting program needs;

(4) When necessary, provide subsidies for congregate meals, housekeeping, and personal services for sheltered housing, and develop eligibility requirements in connection with these subsidies;

(5) Establish standards and guidelines governing the certification and operation of sheltered housing projects; and

(6) Certify and review the compliance of sheltered housing projects with the standards and guidelines established for governing the certification and operation of these projects.

[(d)] (C) (1) Any person 70 years old or older is eligible for appointment to any permanent merit system position for which he qualifies and the appointment is subject to the provisions of Article 64A.

(2) Any person who is first appointed to a permanent merit system position or unclassified position at the age of 70 or older shall not be eligible for membership in the pension systems of the State.

(3) If a member who is over 70 years old desires to continue employment, the member shall apply for continuation on an annual basis on the form provided by the Secretary of Personnel. The application for continuation of employment, in the first instance, shall be submitted, not less than 30 nor more than 90 days before the end of the fiscal year to the member's