2-1006.

- (a) The Program shall be operated with moneys in the Homeownership Programs Fund, which Fund shall be a continuing, nonlapsing fund consisting of:
- (1) Moneys appropriated by the State for homeownership programs, including the Maryland Home Financing Program authorized by Subtitle 6 of this title and the Settlement Expense Loan Program authorized by this subtitle;
- (2) Repayments and prepayments of loans made under such programs, both prior to and after July 1, 1989;
- (3) Moneys transferred to the Fund in accordance with \$\ 2-313(j), 2-505(d), 2-708(d), [and] 2-805(d), AND 2-1303(D) 2-1307(D) of this title; and
- (4) All other moneys referred to in § 2-613(a) of this title which are not otherwise set forth in this subsection.

SUBTITLE 13. NEIGHBORHOOD BUSÍNÉSS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. 2–1301.

- (A) IT-IS HEREBY FOUND AND DECLARED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT:
- (1) A VIBRANT BUSINESS SECTOR IN A NEIGHBORHOOD CAN BE A STIMULUS TO NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION:
- (2) THE EXISTENCE OF NEIGHBORHOODS WHICH SUFFER FROM SOCIAL DISTRESS AND LACK OF BUSINESS INVESTMENT IN THE STATE IS A DETRIMENT TO THE WELL-BEING, HEALTH, AND SAFETY OF THE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND;
- (3) THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN THESE DISTRESSED NEIGHBORHOODS CAN BE ALLEVIATED THROUGH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN SUCH NEIGHBORHOODS;
- (4) COOPERATION BETWEEN THE STATE, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISES CAN ENCOURAGE SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT AND EXPANSION IN DISTRESSED NEIGHBORHOODS; AND
- (5) THERE IS A NEED FOR INCREASED JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN DISTRESSED NEIGHBORHOODS.
- (B) THE NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IS HEREBY CREATED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT, FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:
- (1) TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT, REDEVELOPMENT, OR EXPANSION OF SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES IN DESIGNATED NEIGHBORHOODS;
- (2) TO STIMULATE INVESTMENT BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN DESIGNATED NEIGHBORHOODS;
- (3) TO INVEST IN SMALL BUSINESS REVITALIZATION PROJECTS IN DESIGNATED NEIGHBORHOODS: AND