

(3) MONEYS TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND FROM ANY OTHER FUND AS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS TITLE.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE THE FUND TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND TO PAY EXPENSES OF THE PROGRAM.

(C) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD AND THE STATE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FUND. THE FUND SHALL BE INVESTED AND REINVESTED. ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS SHALL BE PAID INTO THE FUND.

(D) AT ANY TIME FOLLOWING THE FIRST 8 MONTHS OF ANY FISCAL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT MAY TRANSFER, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE AND SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF § 7-209 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE, UNENCUMBERED MONEYS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FUND TO ANY OTHER FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS TITLE.

2-1308.

(A) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY MAKE OR CAUSE ANY FALSE STATEMENT OR REPORT TO BE MADE IN ANY DOCUMENT REQUIRED TO BE FURNISHED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY ANY AGREEMENT RELATING TO A LOAN.

(B) A PERSON APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MAY NOT KNOWINGLY MAKE OR CAUSE ANY FALSE STATEMENT OR REPORT TO BE MADE FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING THE ACTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON AN APPLICATION OR FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING ANY ACTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AFFECTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ALREADY PROVIDED.

(C) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF SUBSECTION (A) OR (B) OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$50,000, OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR BOTH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Housing and Community Development shall report in writing to the House Economic Matters Committee and the Senate Finance Committee by December 1, 1997, on the implementation of this Act, with particular attention given to the geographic disbursement of funds.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared severable.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1995.

Approved May 9, 1995.