

(2) "ASSOCIATION" MEANS THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

(3) "BOARD" MEANS THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

(4) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT.

(5) "VOLUNTEER COMPANY" MEANS A VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE, FIRE, OR RESCUE COMPANY LOCATED IN THE STATE.

(B) THERE IS A VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND.

(C) THE VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND IS COMPRISED OF:

(1) THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TRUST ACCOUNT; AND

(2) THE LOW INTEREST REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT.

(D) (1) THE FUND IS A CONTINUING, NONLAPSING FUND WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(2) THE TREASURER SHALL SEPARATELY HOLD AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

(3) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE PAID INTO THE FUND.

(4) AMOUNTS RECEIVED AS REPAYMENTS ON LOANS FROM THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TRUST ACCOUNT OR THE LOW INTEREST REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT SHALL BE PLACED IN THE RESPECTIVE ACCOUNT AND MADE AVAILABLE TO FUND REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

(E) THE DEPARTMENT, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD, SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE NECESSARY TO ADMINISTER THE FUND.

#### 46A.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "ACCOUNT" MEANS THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TRUST ACCOUNT.

(B) (1) THERE IS AN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TRUST ACCOUNT.

(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE ACCOUNT IS TO ASSURE ADEQUATE FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE.

(C) AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE ASSOCIATION, THE GOVERNOR IS AUTHORIZED TO INCLUDE AN AMOUNT IN THE STATE BUDGET EACH YEAR FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

(D) A GRANT OR LOAN AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE USED ONLY FOR: