

~~positions; and generally relating to the Self-Help Homeownership Technical Assistance Program and the development of opportunities for self help homeownership in the State~~ affordable housing.

BY adding to

Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development
Section 2-1501 through 2-1509, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 15. Self-Help Homeownership Technical Assistance Program”
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development
Section 11-103(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 83B – Department of Housing and Community Development

SUBTITLE 15. SELF-HELP HOMEOWNERSHIP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

2-1501.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

(1) HOMEOWNERSHIP IS A STABILIZING FACTOR FOR COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES AND IS THE BEST WAY FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES TO BUILD EQUITY AND MOVE OUT OF POVERTY;

(2) THE AFFORDABILITY OF HOMEOWNERSHIP HAS WORSENERED OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS BECAUSE INCOMES HAVE NOT KEPT PACE WITH THE RISING COSTS OF HOMEOWNERSHIP;

(3) SELF-HELP HOUSING ASSISTS LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS TO MOVE INTO HOMEOWNERSHIP, WHICH INCREASES THEIR FINANCIAL STABILITY;

(4) FAMILIES WORKING IN GROUPS TO COOPERATIVELY BUILD THEIR HOMES ASSISTS IN CREATING STRONGER COMMUNITIES; AND

(5) THERE HAVE BEEN THREE SUCCESSFUL FEDERALLY FUNDED SELF-HELP PROGRAMS IN MARYLAND AND MODELING A STATE SELF-HELP OWNERSHIP PROGRAM ON A WELL-TESTED FEDERAL PROGRAM WILL INCREASE HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS ACROSS MARYLAND.

2-1502.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.