

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE SHALL INCLUDE WITHOUT REVISION THE BUDGET REQUEST OF THE COUNCIL IN THE BUDGET REQUEST OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE THAT IS PROVIDED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Art. 41, § 15-107(c).

Defined terms: "Council" § 13-401  
"State" § 9-101

### 13-415. PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.

#### (A) IN GENERAL.

THE COUNCIL MAY UNDERTAKE ANY ACTIVITY THAT ADDRESSES ISSUES AND CONCERNS OF RURAL AREAS OF THE STATE AS LONG AS THE ACTIVITY IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH PROVISIONS OF THE FARM SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT OF 2002 REGARDING THE NATIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AND STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS, 7 U.S.C. § 2008m.

#### (B) SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES.

THE COUNCIL MAY:

- (1) MAINTAIN A PRINCIPAL OFFICE AT A LOCATION IN THE CENTRAL REGION OF THE STATE THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO THE RURAL PUBLIC;
- (2) EMPLOY, AS REGULAR EMPLOYEES OR AS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, STAFF THAT THE COUNCIL CONSIDERS NECESSARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL BUDGET;
- (3) ENTER INTO CONTRACTS;
- (4) ACCEPT GRANTS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OTHER UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, OR A PRIVATE SOURCE; AND
- (5) DO ALL THINGS NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT TO CARRY OUT ITS PURPOSE.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Art. 41, §§ 15-108 and 15-102(b).

In subsection (a) of this section, the reference to "7 U.S.C. § 2008m" is substituted for the former reference to "P.L. 107-171, Section 6021" for clarity.

Also in subsection (a) of this section, the reference to "state" rural development councils is substituted for the former reference to "State" councils for clarity.

Also in subsection (a) of this section, the former reference to "citizens of" rural Maryland is deleted for clarity because the meaning of the term