

INVESTMENT PROGRAM, [general public assistance,] public assistance to adults, child welfare services, food stamps, and any other social service and public assistance activities financed in whole or in part by the State [Administration] DEPARTMENT. For the purposes of these powers, child welfare services being provided to persons under the age of 18 may continue after their eighteenth birthday but not beyond their twenty-first birthday.

(2) All of the activities of the local departments in the counties and in Baltimore City, which the State [Administration] DEPARTMENT finances, in whole or in part, shall be subject to the supervision, direction and control of the State [Administration] DEPARTMENT.

(b) The State [Administration] DEPARTMENT may develop and implement an automated statewide [income maintenance] system and related administrative procedures to achieve effectively and efficiently the purposes of this title. In the implementation of the system, the State [Administration] DEPARTMENT may assume [income maintenance] functions that this article otherwise assigns to local units only to the extent necessary for efficient implementation of the system. Such changes in assignments and performance of functions will be effected by executive order, promulgated by the Governor in accordance with Title 3, Subtitle 4 of the State Government Article.

(c) The State Social Services Administration shall exercise supervision, as hereinafter set forth, over all public and private institutions having the care, custody or control of dependent, abandoned or neglected children, except those institutions under the authority of the Department of Juvenile Justice and those agencies, persons, or institutions designated by the Department of Juvenile Justice as provided for in § 2-114 of Article 83C.

(d) To enable the State Department to discharge properly the duties imposed upon it, the State Department may of its own motion, or by the direction of the Governor shall, cause charges to be formulated against any corporation, association, institution or agency engaged in charitable or social services or welfare activities, except State-aided hospitals, receiving financial assistance from the State or with which the State has contracts, and cause a copy of such charges to be served on such corporation, association, institution or agency. The State Department shall have power to issue summonses for witnesses and documents, which summonses shall be duly served, as are other similar writs, by any sheriff to whom the same shall be directed, and to administer oaths, and take testimony which it shall cause to be transcribed and included in its report. The Governor, with the approval of the Board of Public Works, is hereby authorized and empowered to withhold, in whole or in part, further payments to any such institution or agency out of current or future appropriations, upon recommendation of the State Department if in its judgment the facts warrant, and by budget amendment to transfer any part of such appropriation so withdrawn to any other institution or agency of a like nature, upon recommendation of the State Department.

(e) The State Department shall have further power to visit any State-aided institution, organization, or agency engaged in social service or welfare activities, and thoroughly to inspect the management, buildings and equipment thereof; but such visits