

provisions of the Maryland Condominium Act. Residential condominiums offered for sale in the State of Maryland must be registered with the Secretary of State. Registration forms and information are provided upon request (Code Real Property Article, secs. 11-127 through 11-130).

Cooperatives. A developer who is converting an apartment house into a cooperative must file with the Secretary of State a copy of the notice of conversion and a list containing the name of each tenant to whom notice was given. State law also provides that the Office of the Secretary of State establish a file of local legislation affecting cooperatives (Code Corporations and Associations Article, secs. 5-6B-05; 5-6B-09 through 5-6B-11).

Time-Shares. Since 1985, a developer of a time-share project has been required to file with the Secretary of State a public offering (disclosure) statement for the proposed project. If the Secretary of State determines that the public offering statement satisfies the requirements of the Maryland Real Estate Time-Sharing Act, an order of approval is issued (Code Real Property Article, secs. 11A-101 through 11A-129).

DIVISION OF STATE DOCUMENTS

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The Division of State Documents was created within the Office of the Secretary of State in 1974. Appointed by the Governor, the Administrator is responsible for publication of the *Maryland Register* and the *Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR)*. The Administrator also oversees the Maryland Information Retrieval System (MIRS), a computerized information retrieval service for various State documents (Code State Government Article, secs. 7-201 through 7-222).

The primary duties of the Division are to print and distribute two official State publications: (1) the *Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR)*, the permanent compilation of the Governor's executive orders, all State agency regulations, and all opinions issued by the State Ethics Commission; and (2) the *Maryland Register*, a bi-weekly publication that serves as a temporary supplement to *COMAR*.

The *Register* prints all proposed, adopted and emergency regulations of the State's administrative agencies; notices of public hearings and meetings; the full text of all opinions of the Attorney General; proposed and adopted rules of court; hearing calendars of the Courts of Appeal; synopses of all legislation proposed, enacted, and vetoed each legislative session of the General Assembly; all Executive Orders; all gubernatorial appointments; notices of bids requested and awards announced on all State contracts valued above \$25,000; and any other document the General Assembly requires or the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review (AELR) permits to be published. An index to the *Register* is published quarterly and is cumulative throughout the year. All adopted regulations and Executive Orders that are generally permanent in nature are periodically taken from the pages of the *Register* and integrated into *COMAR* by means of published supplements.

With the exception of emergency regulations, administrative regulations are not effective until notice of their adoption is published in the *Maryland Register*. The text of any document appearing in the *Maryland Register* and *COMAR* is the only official, valid, and enforceable text of that document. Any document appearing in the *Maryland Register* and *COMAR* is accorded judicial notice in all court proceedings.

The Maryland Information Retrieval System (MIRS), a full-text retrieval system for State statutes, regulations, and other documents, also is administered and directed by the Division.