File No. 1550

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1696



Senate, June 1, 1971. The Committee on Government Administration & Policy reported through Senator Sullivan of the 16th District, Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS AND JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened: Section 1. Section 8-227 of the 1969 2 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and 3 the following is substituted in lieu thereof: The 4 commissioner of community affairs [may make] SHALL 5 ADOPT and enforce regulations IN ACCORDANCE WITH 6 THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 4-41 TO 4-50 INCLUSIVE 7 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES AS AMENDED to effectuate 8 the purposes of this chapter and sections 8-44a, 9 8-154f and 19-347i [and] to determine the 10 allocation of the state financial assistance 11 authorized in this chapter and said sections among 12 the municipalities of the state on the basis of 13 their respective needs. AND TO ESTABLISH 14 PROCEDURES FOR THE APPLICATION FOR SUCH 15 ASSISTANCE. WHENEVER THE STATUTES MAKE APPROVAL 16 OF ASSISTANCE DEPENDENT UPON THE DISCRETION OF THE 17 COMMISSIONER, HE SHALL SET FORTH BY REGULATIONS 18 THE STANDARDS HE WILL REQUIRE FOR APPROVAL. Sec. 2. Section 8-198 of the said supplement 20 is repealed and the following is substituted in 21 lieu thereof: The commissioner of community 22 affairs [is authorized to] SHALL make and enforce

23 reasonable regulations IN ACCORDANCE WITH 24 PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 4-41 TO 4-50 INCLUSIVE 25 THE GENERAL STATUTES AS AMENDED to carry out the 26 provisions of this chapter.

27 Sec. 3. Section 8-207 of the said supplement 28 is amended by adding subsection (e) as follows: 29 THE COMMISSIONER OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SHALL ADOPT 30 AND PUBLISH REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH 31 PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 4-41 TO 4-50 INCLUSIVE OF 32 THE GENERAL STATUTES AS AMENDED, ESTABLISHING 33 REOUIREMENTS FOR A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION 34 PLAN. THE PROCEDURES OF THE DEPARTMENT 35 CONNECTION THEREWITH, THE STANDARDS USED IN 36 REVIEWING SUCH PLANS FOR APPROVAL OR REJECTION. 37 SUCH REGULATIONS SHALL SPECIFY AT WHAT STAGE IN 38 SUCH PLANS FUNDS WILL BE ALLOCATED 39 MUNICIPALITIES FOR PROJECTS WHICH REQUIRE COMMISSIONER'S APPROVAL. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL 41 NOT ESTABLISH ANY PRIORITY MUNICIPAL AMONG

42 PROGRAMS OR PROJECTS BY SUCH REGULATIONS.

Sec. 4. Section 8-114a of said supplement is 44 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu 45 thereof: Upon preliminary approval by the state 46 bond commission pursuant to the provisions of 47 section 3-21, the state, acting by and through the 48 commissioner of community affairs, may enter into 49 a contract or contracts with an authority for 50 state financial assistance for a rental housing 51 project or projects for elderly persons in the 52 form of capital grants for application to the 53 development cost thereof [,provided the 54 municipality in which such authority is located 55 shall have prepared a community development action 56 plan or submitted a program for the preparation of 57 a community development action plan, in accordance 58 with the provisions of section 8-207]. Such 59 capital grants shall be in an amount not in excess development cost of the project or 60 of the 61 projects, including administrative or other cost expense to be incurred by the state in 63 connection therewith, as approved by said 64 commissioner. In anticipation of final payment of 65 such capital grants, the state, acting by and 66 through said commissioner and in accordance with 67 such contract, may make temporary advances to the 68 authority for preliminary planning expense or 69 other development cost of such project or 70 projects.

Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 8-207 of 72 said supplement is repealed and the following is 73 substituted in lieu thereof: In order for any 74 municipality, or agency thereof, or any housing 75 authority, community housing development 76 corporation or human resource development agency 77 in any municipality, to receive state financial 78 assistance from the commissioner the municipality 79 shall prepare a community development action plan 80 PROVIDED, NO SUCH PLAN SHALL BE REQUIRED FOR THE 81 RECEIPT OF A GRANT PURSUANT TO PART VI OF CHAPTER 82 128 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES AS AMENDED, OR SECTION 83 8-210 OF THE SAID SUPPLEMENT. The first 84 application from any municipality for THE 85 AFORESAID state financial assistance from the 86 commissioner shall include a program for the 87 preparation of a community development action 88 plan. Such program shall include, among other 89 things, (1) a general description of the physical, 90 economic and human resource characteristics of the 91 municipality, including the known physical, 92 economic and human resource problems and needs of 93 the municipality, and identifying potential 94 physical, economic and human resource needs and 95 problems; (2) a schedule of work to be undertaken 96 to assure the timely preparation of the community 97 development action plan within the initial two-98 year period; (3) a description of the means by 99 which such municipality proposes to complete the 100 community development action plan, including, but 101 not limited to, the composition of the community 102 development action plan agency and the names of 103 independent contractors, if any, who have been or 104 may be engaged to assist it in such preparation, 105 or a request to the commissioner of community 106 affairs for such assistance; (4) a description of 107 the means by which the municipality will pursue a 108 program of citizen participation and involvement 109 during the preparation of the community 110 development action plan. Such program shall be 111 approved, and the undertaking of the community 112 development action plan authorized, by the 113 governing body of the municipality prior to the 114 submission of the program to the commissioner for 115 his approval. Progress reports on the preparation 116 of the community development action plan shall be 117 submitted to the commissioner at intervals of not 118 less than six months commencing from the date of

119 the first payment to the municipality by the state 120 of financial assistance for preparation of such 121 plan. Upon completion of the community 122 development action plan, the agency shall file a 123 copy of such plan in the office of the clerk of 124 the municipality where it shall be open for public 125 inspection, and there shall be held at least one 126 public hearing thereon not earlier than seven days 127 after the filing of the community development 128 action plan in the office of such clerk and a 129 notice of the time and place of such public 130 hearing shall be published in a newspaper having 131 general circulation in the municipality at least 132 seven days prior to the date of each such hearing, 133 which notice shall make reference to the filing of 134 such plan in the office of such clerk. Subsequent 135 to such hearing or hearings the agency may revise 136 the community development action plan. The plan 137 shall thereafter be submitted for the approval of 138 the legislative body of the municipality and upon 139 its approval by such legislative body the plan 140 shall thereafter be submitted to the commissioner 141 for his approval. Upon its approval by the 142 commissioner, the plan shall become the community 143 development action plan for the municipality. The 144 community development action plan agency may 145 modify the community development action plan at 146 any time. Where a proposed modification will 147 substantially change the community development 148 action plan as previously approved by the 149 legislative body and the commissioner, the 150 modification shall be approved in the manner set 151 forth herein for approval of the original plan. 152 The community development action plan shall be 153 submitted to the commissioner for his approval 154 within twenty-four months after the first payment 155 to the municipality by the state of financial 156 assistance for the preparation of such plan. If 157 such community development action plan is not 158 prepared by the municipality and approved by the 159 commissioner within twenty-four months after the 160 first payment to the municipality by the state of 161 financial assistance for the preparation of such 162 plan, or the municipality does not show progress 163 in the preparation of such community development 164 action plan satisfactory to the commissioner 165 within twelve months after such date, the state 166 shall thereafter make no further payments of

167 grants-in-aid or advances-in-aid of any program, 168 project or activities in such municipality 169 pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and 170 sections 8-44a, 8-154f and 19-347i EXCEPTING THE 171 EXCLUSIONS PROVIDED IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THIS 172 SUBSECTION, until such progress is shown or such 173 plan is prepared by the municipality and approved 174 by the commissioner; provided the commissioner may 175 grant a municipality an extension or extensions of 176 time for preparing and securing his approval of 177 such plan, or of progress in the preparation 178 thereof, when the commissioner determines such 179 extension or extensions to be in the best interest the state and of the people of such 181 municipality. The commissioner may, if, 182 during the time for which, any extension 183 granted, continue to make payments of grants-in-184 aid and advances-in-aid under any provisions of 185 this chapter and sections 8-44a, 8-154f and 19-186 347i, if he is satisfied that the agency is 187 performing in good faith. A municipality may 188 abandon the preparation of a community development 189 action plan at any time, provided in the event a 190 municipality which has received state financial 191 assistance for the preparation of a community 192 development action plan pursuant to section 8-220 193 fails to complete such plan and fails to submit it 194 to the legislative body of the municipality, the 195 commissioner may require repayment of all or any 196 portion of such assistance, but in no event may 197 the commissioner require as a condition of such 198 assistance, by contract or otherwise, that the 199 municipality consent or agree to completion of the 200 preparation of the community development action 201 plan by the commissioner if the municipality 202 abandons or fails to complete such preparation. municipality shall make every reasonable 203 The 204 effort to implement and execute the community 205 development action plan. The commissioner's 206 authorization of state assistance shall take into 207 account the community development action plan as 208 approved by the municipality and the commissioner, 209 or the program for the preparation thereof 210 SUCH PLAN IS REQUIRED FOR THE STATE ASSISTANCE. 211 Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of said section 8-207 212 is repealed and the following is substituted in 213 lieu thereof: Any municipality may by ordinance

214 create a community development action plan agency

215 and may exercise through such agency the powers 216 granted thereto under the provisions of this 217 section. Such ordinance shall provide the number 218 of members of the agency, which shall be not less 219 than five nor more than fifteen, and their terms 220 of office, which shall be two years, except that 221 the terms of any member appointed ex officio shall 222 be the term of such other office. The members 223 shall be electors in the municipality and shall be 224 appointed by the chief executive officer of the 225 municipality with the approval of the legislative 226 body. Vacancies on such agency shall be filled 227 for unexpired terms by the chief executive officer 228 in the manner specified above for appointment. 229 The members of the agency shall serve without 230 compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary 231 expenses. Notwithstanding the provisions of 232 section 8-41 any person may serve both as a member 233 of the agency and as a housing authority 234 commissioner in the municipality. Action by the 235 agency shall be taken only on the majority vote of 236 all the members of such agency. The agency shall 237 elect from among its members a chairman, a vice 238 chairman, a secretary and a treasurer. The 239 offices of secretary and treasurer may be 240 combined. The agency shall keep a public record 241 of its activities. The agency may engage such 242 employees and technical assistance as shall be 243 necessary and appropriate to carry out its lawful 244 functions. For the purpose of carrying out the 245 functions authorized by this section, a 246 municipality, acting by and through such agency, 247 may accept grants, advances, loans or other 248 financial assistance from the federal government, 249 the state, or other source, and may do any and all 250 things necessary or desirable to secure such 251 financial aid. WHERE A GRANT UNDER THE AFORESAID 252 SECTION 8-210 OR PART VI OF CHAPTER 128 IS 253 CONCERNED AND SUCH A PLAN OR AGENCY DOES NOT 254 EXIST, THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY 255 SHALL DESIGNATE A SUITABLE AGENCY TO CARRY 256 SUCH FUNCTIONS IN RESPECT TO THE SAID PROGRAMS. 257 Any official, board, commission or agency 258 designated prior to July 1, 1969, for the purpose 259 of preparing the community development action plan 260 shall perform the functions and have all the 261 powers provided herein of a community development 262 action plan agency unless such municipality 263 creates a community development action plan agency 264 pursuant to this section.

Sec. 7. Subsection (d) of said section 8-207 266 is repealed and the following is substituted in 267 lieu thereof: No application to the commissioner 268 for state financial assistance to any municipality 269 or agency thereof, or to any housing authority, 270 community housing development corporation, or 271 human resource development agency of any 272 municipality shall be approved by the commissioner 273 until it has been approved by the community 274 development action plan agency of such 275 municipality WITH THE EXCEPTIONS SET FORTH IN 276 SECTION 5 OF THIS ACT. Prior to submission of any 277 application to the commissioner for financial 278 assistance for a human resource development 279 program of a human resource development agency 280 designated under section 8-221(2)(b) WITH THE 281 AFORESAID EXCEPTIONS the community development 282 action plan agency shall refer such application to 283 the human resource development agency designated 284 under section 8-221(2)(a), if any exists in the 285 municipality, for its advisory opinion concerning 286 such program. After receiving such advisory 287 opinion, or if such opinion shall not have been 288 received within thirty days after referral of the 289 application to the human resource development 290 agency, the application may be submitted to the 291 commissioner. All such applications to the 292 commissioner shall include such advisory opinion 293 if received.

STATE OF CONNEC	TICUT	4
Bill No. 1696	Page 1 8	6
Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT	ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY	7
	LCO No. 4427	8
Introduced by SEN. HAMMER, 12th Dist.		9
Ge	neral Assembly,	10
	January Session, A.D., 1971	11
AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS AND JURI	SDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT	14
OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.	STATE LIBRARY	
	LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE	
	SECTION	
Be it enacted by the Senate and	House of Representatives in	16
General Assembly convened:		17
Section 1. Section 8-227 of th	e 1969 supplement to the	18
general statutes is repealed and the	following is substituted in	19
lieu thereof: The commissioner of co	mmunity affairs [may make]	20
SHALL ADOPT and enforce regulation	ns IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE	
PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 4-41 TO 4-50	INCLUSIVE OF THE GENERAL	21
STATUTES AS AMENDED to effectuate	the purposes of this chapter	22
and sections 8-44a, 8-154f and 19-347	i [and] to determine the	
allocation of the state financial a	ssistance authorized in this	23
chapter and said sections among the m	unicipalities of the state	24
on the basis of their respective	needs, AND TO ESTABLISH	
PROCEDURES FOR THE APPLICATION FOR SU	CH ASSISTANCE. WHENEVER THE	25
STATUTES MAKE APPROVAL OF ASSISTANCE	DEPENDENT ON THE DISCRETION	26
OF THE COMMISSIONER, THE STANDARDS	HE WILL REQUIRE FOR APPROVAL	
HE SHALL SET FORTH IN SUCH REGULATION	5.	27
Sec. 2. Section 8-198 of the sa	id supplement is repealed	28
and the following is substitu	ted in lieu thereof: The	29
commissioner of community affairs [is		30
and enforce reasonable regulation	s IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE	
PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 4-41 TO 4-50	INCLUSIVE OF THE GENERAL	31
CHARITHEC AC AMENDED to cover out the	nvovisions of this shorter	22

Sec. 3. Section 8-207 of the said supplement is amended by

adding subsection (e) as follows: THE COMMISSIONER OF COMMUNITY

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AFFAIRS SHALL ADOPT AND PUBLISH REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH	35
THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 4-41 TO 4-50 INCLUSIVE OF THE GENERAL	
STATUTES AS AMENDED, ESTABLISHING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A	36
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN, THE PROCEDURES OF THE	37
DEPARTMENT IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, THE STANDARDS USED IN	
REVIEWING SUCH PLANS FOR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, AND INFORMING	38
MUNICIPALITIES AT WHAT STAGE IN SUCH PLANS FUNDS WILL BE	39
ALLOCATED TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR PROJECTS WHICH REQUIRE THE	
COMMISSIONER'S APPROVAL. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL NOT ESTABLISH	40
ANY PRIORETY AMONGST MUNICIPALITIES' PROGRAMS OR PROJECTS BY SUCH	41
REGULATIONS.	
Sec. 4. Section 8-114a of said supplement is repealed and	42
the following is substituted in lieu thereof: Upon preliminary	43
approval by the state bond commission pursuant to the provisions	44
of section 3-21, the state, acting by and through the	
commissioner of community affairs, may enter into a contract or	45
contracts with an authority for state financial assistance for a	46
rental housing project or projects for elderly persons in the	
form of capital grants for application to the development cost	47
thereof [,provided the municipality in which such authority is	48
located shall have prepared a community development action plan	

excess of the development cost of the project or projects, 51 including administrative or other cost or expense to be incurred 52 by the state in connection therewith, as approved by said commissioner. In anticipation of final payment of such capital 53 grants, the state, acting by and through said commissioner and in 54 accordance with such contract, may make temporary advances to the authority for preliminary planning expense or other development 55 cost of such project or projects. Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 8-207 of said supplement 56

or submitted a program for the preparation of a community

development action plan, in accordance with the provisions of

section 8-207]. Such capital grants shall be in an amount not in

is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof: In

order for any municipality, or agency thereof, or any housing

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authority, community housing development corporation or human	5
resource development agency in any municipality, to receive state	5
financial assistance from the commissioner the municipality shall	6
prepare a community development action plan PROVIDED, HOWEVER NO	6
SUCH PLAN SHALL BE REQUIRED AT ANY STAGE OF A GRANT PURSUANT TO	
PART VI OF CHAPTER 128 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES AS AMENDED, OR	6.
SECTION 8-210 OF THE SAID SUPPLEMENT. The first application from	6
any municipality for THE AFORESAID state financial assistance	
from the commissioner shall include a program for the preparation	6
of a community development action plan. Such program shall	6.
include, among other things, (1) a general description of the	6
physical, economic and human resource characteristics of the	
municipality, including the known physical, economic and human	6
resource problems and needs of the municipality, and identifying	6
potential physical, economic and human resource needs and	6
problems; (2) a schedule of work to be undertaken to assure the	
timely preparation of the community development action plan	. 7
within the initial two-year period; (3) a description of the	7
means by which such municipality proposes to complete the	7
community development action plan, including, but not limited to,	
the composition of the community development action plan agency	7
and the names of independent contractors, if any, who have been	7
or may be engaged to assist it in such preparation, or a request	
to the commissioner of community affairs for such assistance; (4)	7
a description of the means by which the municipality will pursue	7
a program of citizen participation and involvement during the	7
preparation of the community development action plan. Such	
program shall be approved, and the undertaking of the community	7
development action plan authorized, by the governing body of the	7
municipality prior to the submission of the program to the	
commissioner for his approval. Progress reports on the	. 8
preparation of the community development action plan shall be	8
submitted to the commissioner at intervals of not less than six	
months commencing from the date of the first payment to the	8
municipality by the state of financial assistance for preparation	8

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of such plan. Upon completion of the community development	83
action plan, the agency shall file a copy of such plan in the	84
office of the clerk of the municipality where it shall be open	85
for public inspection, and there shall be held at least one	86
public hearing thereon not earlier than seven days after the	
filing of the community development action plan in the office of	87
such clerk and a notice of the time and place of such public	88
hearing shall be published in a newspaper having general	
circulation in the municipality at least seven days prior to the	89
date of each such hearing, which notice shall make reference to	90
the filing of such plan in the office of such clerk. Subsequent	91
to such hearing or hearings the agency may revise the community	
development action plan. The plan shall thereafter be submitted	92
for the approval of the legislative body of the municipality and	93
upon its approval by such legislative body the plan shall	
thereafter be submitted to the commissioner for his approval.	94
Upon its approval by the commissioner, the plan shall become the	95
community development action plan for the municipality. The	96
community development action plan agency may modify the community	
development action plan at any time. Where a proposed	97
modification will substantially change the community development	98
action plan as previously approved by the legislative body and	99
the commissioner, the modification shall be approved in the	
manner set forth herein for approval of the original plan. The	100
community development action plan shall be submitted to the	101
commissioner for his approval within twenty-four months after the	
first payment to the municipality by the state of financial	102
assistance for the preparation of such plan. If such community	103
development action plan is not prepared by the municipality and	104
approved by the commissioner within twenty-four months after the	
first payment to the municipality by the state of financial	105
assistance for the preparation of such plan, or the municipality	106
does not show progress in the preparation of such community	
development action plan satisfactory to the commissioner within	100
twelve months after such date, the state shall thereafter make no	108

further payments of grants-in-aid or advances-in-aid of any	109
program, project or activities in such municipality pursuant to	
the provisions of this chapter and sections 8-44a, 8-154f and 19-	110
347i WITH THE EXCLUSIONS PROVIDED IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THIS	111
SUBSECTION, until such progress is shown or such plan is prepared	
by the municipality and approved by the commissioner; provided	112
the commissioner may grant a municipality an extension or	113
extensions of time for preparing and securing his approval of	114
such plan, or of progress in the preparation thereof, when the	
commissioner determines such extension or extensions to be in the	115
best interest of the state and of the people of such	116
municipality. The commissioner may, if, and during the time for	
which, any extension is granted, continue to make payments of	117
grants-in-aid and advances-in-aid under any provisions of this	118
chapter and sections 8-44a, 8-154f and 19-347i, if he is	
satisfied that the agency is performing in good faith. A	119
municipality may abandon the preparation of a community	120
development action plan at any time, provided in the event a	
municipality which has received state financial assistance for	121
the preparation of a community development action plan pursuant	122
to section 8-220 fails to complete such plan and fails to submit	
it to the legislative body of the municipality, the commissioner	123
may require repayment of all or any portion of such assistance,	124
but in no event may the commissioner require as a condition of	125
such assistance, by contract or otherwise, that the municipality	
consent or agree to completion of the preparation of the	126
community development action plan by the commissioner if the	127
municipality abandons or fails to complete such preparation. The	
municipality shall make every reasonable effort to implement and	128
execute the community development action plan. The	129
commissioner's authorization of state assistance shall take into	130
account the community development action plan as approved by the	
municipality and the commissioner, or the program for the	131
preparation thereof WHEN SUCH PLAN IS REQUIRED FOR THE STATE	132
ASSISTANCE.	

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Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of said section 8-207 is repealed the following is substituted in lieu thereof: Any municipality may by ordinance create a community development action plan agency and may exercise through such agency the powers granted thereto under the provisions of this section. Such ordinance shall provide the number of members of the agency, which shall be not less than five nor more than fifteen, and their terms of office, which shall be two years, except that the terms of any member appointed ex officio shall be the term of such other office. The members shall be electors in the municipality and shall be appointed by the chief executive officer of the municipality with the approval of the legislative body. Vacancies on such agency shall be filled for unexpired terms by the chief executive officer in the manner specified above for appointment. The members of the agency shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 8-41 any person may serve both as a member of the agency and as a housing authority commissioner in the municipality. Action by the agency shall be taken only on the majority vote of all the members of such agency. The agency shall elect from among its members a chairman, a vice chairman, a secretary and a treasurer. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined. The agency shall keep a public record of its activities. The agency may engage such employees and technical assistance as shall be necessary and appropriate to carry out its lawful functions. For the purpose of carrying out the functions authorized by this section, a municipality, acting by and through such agency, may accept grants, advances, loans or other financial assistance from the federal government, the state, or other source, and may do any and all things necessary or desirable to secure such financial aid. WHERE A GRANT UNDER THE AFORESAID SECTION 8-210 OR PART VI OF CHAPTER 128 IS CONCERNED AND SUCH A PLAN OR AGENCY DOES NOT EXIST, THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL DESIGNATE A SUTTABLE AGENCY TO CARRY OUT SUCH FUNCTIONS

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RESPECT TO THE SAID PROGRAMS. Any official, board, commission or	158
agency designated prior to July 1, 1969, for the purpose of	159
preparing the community development action plan shall perform the	160
functions and have all the powers provided herein of a community	
development action plan agency unless such municipality creates	161
a community development action plan agency pursuant to this	162
section.	

Sec. 7. Subsection (d) of said section 8-207 is repealed 163 164 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof: No application to the commissioner for state financial assistance to any 165 municipality or agency thereof, or to any housing authority, community housing development corporation, or human resource 166 development agency of any municipality shall be approved by the 167 commissioner until it has been approved by the community development action plan agency of such municipality WITH THE 168 EXCEPTIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 5 OF THIS ACT. Prior to 169 submission of any application to the commissioner for financial 170 assistance for a human resource development program of a human resource development agency designated under section 8-221(2)(b) 171 WITH THE AFORESAID EXCEPTIONS the community development action 172 plan agency shall refer such application to the human resource development agency designated under section 8-221(2)(a), if any 173 exists in the municipality, for its advisory opinion concerning 174 such program. After receiving such advisory opinion, or if such 175 opinion shall not have been received within thirty days after 176 referral of the application to the human resource development agency, the application may be submitted to the commissioner. 177 All such applications to the commissioner shall include, such 178 advisory opinion if received.