

[his] AN official capacity, and as necessary to discharge responsibilities to administer public assistance, medical assistance, or social services programs, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to divulge or make known in any manner any information concerning any applicant for or recipient of social services, child welfare services, cash assistance, food stamps, or medical assistance, directly or indirectly derived from the records, papers, files, investigations or communications of the State, county or city, or subdivisions or agencies thereof, or acquired in the course of the performance of official duties.

(c) Nothing [herein] IN THIS SECTION shall be construed to prohibit:

(1) [the] THE publication, for administrative or research purposes, of statistics or other data so classified as to prevent the identification of particular persons or cases; OR

(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES FROM OBTAINING AN INDIVIDUAL'S FINANCIAL RECORDS FROM A FIDUCIARY INSTITUTION IN THE COURSE OF VERIFYING THE INDIVIDUAL'S ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE---; OR

(3) DISCLOSURES AS PERMITTED BY § 1-303 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ARTICLE OF THE CODE.

62.

(a) Every application for money, property, food stamps, medical care or other assistance, under a social, health, or nutritional program based on need, financed in whole or in part by the State of Maryland, and administered by the Department of Employment and Social Services, or the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or by the local department of social services, whether under this or any other article in this Code, shall be in writing and signed by the applicant. Any person who in making and signing such an application makes a false or fraudulent statement with intent to obtain any such money, property, food stamps, medical care or other assistance is guilty of perjury and upon conviction therefor is subject to the penalties provided by law for perjury.

(b) Beginning July 1, 1979, whenever a photoidentification card is issued to the recipient of any public assistance, the Department of Social Services shall cause a duplicate photoidentification print to be placed in the recipient's social service case file.

(C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES SHALL MAY REQUEST AND OBTAIN FROM ANY FIDUCIARY INSTITUTION DOING BUSINESS IN THE STATE ANY FINANCIAL RECORDS THAT THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES ARE NECESSARY TO VERIFY OR CONFIRM AN INDIVIDUAL'S ELIGIBILITY OR INELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.