(d) *Implementation.* (1) A State plan of operation developed by the State legislature and certified by the chief executive officer of the State shall be in effect and binding upon the State beginning with the date that the Administrator notifies the chief executive officer of the State that the plan conforms to the provisions of section 203(j)(4) of the act and the requirements of this part 101–44 and that allocation and transfer of donable surplus property to the State agency will commence. Such plan of operation shall remain in effect until such time as the Administrator may accept revisions.

(2) GSA may, from time to time, propose modifications or amendments to the provisions of this part 101–44. In such cases, reasonable opportunity will, insofar as practicable, be afforded the State agencies to conform to any such regulatory changes affecting their operations.

(e) *Nonconformance.* When the Administrator determines that a State plan does not conform to the requirements of the act or the provisions of this part 101–44, or subsequently that the State agency does not operate in accordance with the provisions of the plan, allocation and transfer of surplus donable property may be withheld until the nonconformance is corrected.

[42 FR 56003, Oct. 20, 1977; 42 FR 61043, Dec. 1, 1977, as amended at 53 FR 11612, May 5, 1988; 53 FR 47197, Nov. 22, 1988]

§ 101–44.203 Allocation of donable property.

Allocation of donable property will be made by GSA on a fair and equitable basis. The following criteria will be applied by GSA in effecting allocation and transfer of surplus personal property among the States:

(a) Need and usability of property as reflected in selections of property by a State agency, including expressions of need and interest on the part of public agencies or other eligible donees within the State, transmitted through the State agency to GSA. Special consideration will be given by GSA to requests transmitted through the State agency by eligible donees for specific items of property.

(b) Regions or States in greatest need of the type of property to be allocated, where a particular and important need is evidenced by a justification accompanying the expression of need.

(c) Extraordinary needs occasioned by disasters.

(d) The quantity of property of the type under consideration which was previously allocated to or is potentially available to a State agency from a more advantageous source.

(e) Performance of a State agency in effecting timely pickup or removal of property allocated to the State and approved for transfer by GSA.

(f) Performance of a State agency in effecting prompt distribution of property to eligible donees.

(g) Equitable distribution based on the existing condition as well as the original acquisition cost of the property available for donation.

(h) Equitable distribution based on the ratio of population and per capita income of each State.

§ 101–44.204 Certification and agreement by a State agency.

(a) *Certification.* A State agency, in making a request to GSA for the transfer of donable surplus personal property, shall certify that:

(1) It is the agency of the State designated under State law, and as such has legal authority within the meaning of section 203(j) of the act and GSA regulations, to receive surplus property for distribution within the State to eligible donees within the meaning of the act and GSA regulation;

(2) The property is usable and needed by a public agency for one or more public purposes, such as conservation, economic development, education, parks and recreation, public health, public safety, and programs for older individuals, by an eligible nonprofit organization or institution which is exempt from taxation in the State under section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, for the purpose of education or public health (including research for any such purpose) or by an eligible nonprofit tax–exempt activity for programs for older individuals;

(3) When property is picked up by or shipped to a State agency, it has available adequate funds, facilities, and personnel to effect accountability, warehousing, proper maintenance, and distribution of the property; and

(4) When property is distributed by a State agency to a donee, or when delivery is made direct from a holding activity to a donee, the donee acquiring the property is eligible within the meaning of the act and GSA regulations, and that the property is usable and needed by the donee.

(b) *Agreement.* With respect to donable property picked up by or shipped to a State agency, the State agency shall agree to the following;

(1) The right to possession only is granted and the State agency will make prompt statewide distribution of the same, on a fair and equitable basis, to donees eligible to acquire property under section 203(j) of the act and GSA regulations, after such eligible donees have properly executed the appropriate certifications and agreements established by the State agency and/or GSA.

(2) Title to the property shall remain in the United States of America although the State shall have taken possession thereof. Conditional title to the property shall pass to the eligible donee when the donee executes the certifications and appropriate agreements required by the State agency and has taken possession of the property.

(3) The State agency shall:

(i) Pay promptly the cost of care, handling, and shipping incident to taking possession of the property;

(ii) During the time that title remains in the United States of America, be responsible as a bailee for mutual benefit for the property from the time it is released to the State agency or to the transportation agent designated by the State agency; and

(iii) In the event of any loss of or damage to any or all of the property, file a claim and/or institute and prosecute to conclusion the proceedings necessary to recover for the account of the United States of America the fair market value of any of the property lost or damaged.

(4) Surplus property hereafter approved for transfer by GSA for donation shall not be retained by the State agency for use in performing its functions unless the use of such property is authorized by GSA in accordance with the provisions of a cooperative agreement entered into between the State agency and GSA.

(c) *Interstate distribution.* Where an applicant State agency is acting under an interstate distribution agreement approved by GSA as an agent and authorized representative of an adjacent State with which it shares a common boundary the certifications and agreements required above shall also be made by the applicant State agency respecting the donees in the adjacent State to which distribution will be made and the property to be distributed in the adjacent State, and these certifications and agreements shall constitute the certifications and agreements of the adjacent State on whose behalf and as whose authorized representative the applicant State agency is acting.

[42 FR 56003, Oct. 20, 1977, as amended at 45 FR 56809, Aug. 26, 1980; 53 FR 16114, May 5, 1988]

§ 101–44.205 Property in the possession of a State agency.

(a) *Status.* Title to all donable property located in a State agency distribution center is vested in the United States of America. The right to possession only is granted to the State agency. The State agency may disassemble or cannibalize an item of donable property in its possession when it determines that the usable parts and components thereof have greater donation potential than that for which the complete item was originally manufactured. The State agency may retain and use surplus personal property in its possession for the purpose of performing its functions pursuant to the provisions of § 101–44.206.

(b) *Protection.* During the time title remains in the United States of America the State agency shall:

(1) Be responsible as a bailee for mutual benefit for surplus personal property transferred to it by GSA from the time it is released to the State or to the transportation agent designated by the State, and in the event of any loss of or damage to any or all of the property, the State agency shall promptly