

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1968.

Approved May 7, 1968.

CHAPTER 517
(Senate Bill 181)

AN ACT to add a new Section 98B to Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Public Education," subtitle "Chapter 7. Schools," to follow immediately after Section 98A thereof, providing that principals and teachers in every public elementary and secondary school may intervene in a fight or physical struggle which takes place in their presence in school buildings or on school grounds between or among students or any other persons and relating generally to such intervention and its results.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That a new Section 98B be and it is hereby added to Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Public Education," subtitle "Chapter 7. Schools," to follow immediately after Section 98A thereof, and to read as follows:

98B.

(a) *Principals and teachers in every public elementary and secondary school in this State may intervene in any fight or physical struggle which takes place in their presence in school buildings or on school grounds, between or among students or any other persons. The degree and force of the intervention may be as reasonably necessary to restore order and to protect the safety of the combatants and surrounding persons.*

(b) *A principal or teacher who incurs injury while thus intervening shall be compensated by the county board of education or Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, as the case may be, for necessary medical expenses resulting directly from the intervention, and he shall not suffer any loss of compensation for time lost from his school duties resulting directly from the intervention,* BUT SUCH COMPENSATION SHALL BE REDUCED BY ANY PAYMENTS MADE PURSUANT TO THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW.

(c) *In any suit or claim brought against the principal or teacher because of the intervention, by a parent or other claimant of one of the combatants, the county board of education or Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, as the case may be, shall provide legal counsel for the principal or teacher and shall save him harmless from any award or decree against him, compensating him fully for the amount of the award or decree. ~~PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE AFORESAID OBLIGATION TO HOLD HARMLESS SHALL NOT APPLY IN THOSE CASES IN WHICH THE INTERVENTION OR FORCE EMPLOYED BY THE PRINCIPAL OR TEACHER WAS NOT REASONABLY NECESSARY TO RE-~~*