

(8) to generally organize, coordinate and direct the administration of the provisions of this subheading as they apply to such municipality in order that the objective of remedying slum and blighted areas and preventing the causes thereof within such municipality may be most effectively promoted and achieved;

(9) to exercise all or any part or combination of powers herein granted.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1969.

Approved April 23, 1969.

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CHAPTER 359

(House Bill 829)

AN ACT to add new Section 13B to Article 35 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume and 1968 Supplement), title "Evidence," subtitle "Competency of Witness," to follow immediately after Section 13A thereof, and to provide for interpreters in civil proceedings under certain circumstances; , THEIR COMPENSATION compensation, AND TAXATION OF COSTS.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That new Section 13B be and it is hereby added to Article 35 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume and 1968 Supplement), title "Evidence," subtitle "Competency of Witness," to follow immediately after Section 13A thereof, and to read as follows:

**13B.**

(a) *In any civil proceeding in any court in this State when any party or witness is deaf or a deaf-mute, or because of hearing, speaking, or other impairment, cannot readily understand or communicate the English language or is incapable of presenting or assisting in the presentation of such proceedings, there shall be appointed* UPON APPLICATION BY ANY PARTY AND FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN THE COURT MAY APPOINT a qualified interpreter to assist such party or witness throughout the proceedings.

(b) *Any interpreter appointed pursuant to this section shall receive from the court compensation for his services in an amount equal to that provided for interpreters of languages other than English and reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his services.* BE ALLOWED SUCH COMPENSATION AS THE COURT SHALL DEEM REASONABLE. IT SHALL BE DISCRETIONARY WITH THE COURT TO TAX AS PART OF THE COSTS OF THE CASE SUCH AMOUNTS PAID TO AN INTERPRETER FOR SERVICES AND EXPENSES, OTHERWISE SUCH AMOUNT SHALL BE PAID BY THE VARIOUS COUNTIES OR BALTIMORE CITY WHEREIN THE PROCEEDINGS WERE INITIATED.