

and after regular school hours. Most working mothers must leave home some time before the children can get into school for the day, and return home well after the school hours. Day care centers where a mother could leave her child in safety and comfort on her way to work and pick him up on her way home would do much toward putting to rest the current fears of many working mothers concerning the safety and well being of their children. Many mothers, including some "welfare mothers," who now cannot work for that very reason could then join the work force and be productive; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 97 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland ([1969 Replacement Volume and] 1972 Supplement), title "Public Education," subtitle "Chapter 6. The Public Schools," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

97.

(A) The use of public school facilities for community purposes shall be encouraged by the county boards of education. When written application has been made to the superintendent of schools, the county board shall provide for the use of the public school facilities for the presentation and discussion of public questions, public speaking, lectures, or for other civic, educational, social, or recreational purposes or church affiliated civic purposes. [, provided, however, that (a) such] THESE gatherings or meetings shall be open to the public; and (b) the]. THE county board may refuse the use of any school facility for the purposes stated above if it appears that [such] THIS use may be likely to provoke or add to a public riot or breach of the peace, or create a clear and present danger to the peace and welfare of the county [of] OR the State. The county board may permit a partisan political organization which has polled ten percent or more of the entire vote cast in the State in the last preceding general election to use public school facilities for programs and meetings in relation to a political campaign for nomination or election to public office of any candidate or candidates. The county board of education is hereby authorized to allow, at its discretion, the use of public school facilities for religious purposes or other lawful purposes. [Said] THE school facilities are to be used for any of the purposes authorized by this section only at [such] THOSE times [as] WHICH will not interfere with regular school sessions or other bona fide school activities.

(B) BEFORE THE OPENING AND AFTER THE CLOSE OF SCHOOL, THE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL GIVE PRIORITY FOR THE USE OF SPACE BY ACCREDITED DAY CARE PROGRAMS. RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROGRAM SHALL BE PROMULGATED BY EACH LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY. THE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO DAY CARE PROGRAMS FOR THE USE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL HOURS, PROVIDED THE PROGRAM AND SCHOOL FACILITY COMPLY WITH THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE REGULATIONS GOVERNING GROUP DAY CARE CENTERS AND ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS THERETO. RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROGRAM SHALL BE PROMULGATED BY EACH LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY, BUT SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF