

instructional equipment, instructional material to nonpublic schools, and to provide for the transportation of children attending nonpublic schools in the State of Maryland, and relating generally to State aid for children attending nonpublic schools.

BY adding to

Article 77 - Public Education  
Section 213-216, to be under the new  
subtitle "Chapter 18.  
Services for Nonpublic School Children"  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1969 Replacement Volume and 1973 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 213-216, to be under the new subtitle "Chapter 18. Services for Nonpublic School Children" be and they are hereby added to Article 77 - Public Education, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume and 1973 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 77 - Public Education  
CHAPTER 18. SERVICES FOR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

213.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY DECLARES AS A MATTER OF LEGISLATIVE FINDING AND PUBLIC POLICY THAT:

(A) ONE OF THE PRIMARY PURPOSES OF THIS STATE IS TO FOSTER AND SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE STATE.

(B) NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE PROVIDED AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF THIS STATE.

[[ (C) IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE STATE TO PROVIDE SOME FINANCIAL AID TO CHILDREN WHO ATTEND THESE SCHOOLS IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE SCHOOLS TO CONTINUE IN OPERATION IN LIGHT OF RISING COSTS WHICH HAVE CAUSED MANY OF SUCH SCHOOLS TO CLOSE. ]]

[[ (D) ]] (C) MANY OF THE NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVING STUDENTS WHO ARE TO BENEFIT UNDER THIS ACT HAVE A CHURCH AFFILIATION AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS AWARE THAT THE SUPREME COURT HAS ESTABLISHED LIMITATIONS FOR CONSTITUTIONALLY PERMISSIBLE AID TO STUDENTS IN SUCH SCHOOLS IN SEVERAL RECENT DECISIONS.