

[[(E)]] (D) IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THIS ACT TO PROVIDE ONLY SUCH FINANCIAL AID TO STUDENTS IN NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS AS HAS BEEN HELD TO BE CONSTITUTIONALLY PERMISSIBLE IN THESE DECISIONS. IN THIS RESPECT, IT IS THE AVOWED INTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

(1) THAT THIS ACT HAS THE SECULAR PURPOSE OF FOSTERING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

(2) THAT THIS ACT IS TO HAVE A PRIMARY EFFECT THAT NEITHER HELPS NOR HINDERS RELIGION.

(3) THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT ARE NOT TO HAVE THE POTENTIAL FOR ENGENDERING EXCESSIVE ENTANGLEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT WITH RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS AND THE ACT SHOULD BE CONSTRUED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO RESULT IN [[LITTLE OR]] NO SUCH ENTANGLEMENT.

[[(F)]] (E) BY THE PROVISIONS OF STATE ASSISTANCE AS AUTHORIZED IN THIS ACT, IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PROVIDE TEXTBOOKS, INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT, INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, AND TRANSPORTATION TO CHILDREN ATTENDING NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS ON A BASIS AS EQUALLY AS PRACTICABLE TO THOSE PROVIDED CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS SO THAT EVERY SCHOOL CHILD IN MARYLAND WILL EQUITABLY SHARE IN THE BENEFITS OF SAID SECULAR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

IT IS RECOGNIZED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE STATE PAYS DIRECTLY FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND INDIRECTLY FOR TEXTBOOKS, INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT, AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL THROUGH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 77, SECTIONS 128A AND 128B OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (1969 REPLACEMENT VOLUME, 1973 SUPPLEMENT).

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AS USED HEREIN:

(A) "BOARD" SHALL MEAN THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(B) "SUPERINTENDENT" SHALL MEAN THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

[[(C) "NONPUBLIC SCHOOL" SHALL MEAN ANY ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL, APPROVED, CERTIFIED, AND SPECIFICALLY EXCEPTED UNDER PROVISIONS OF SECTION 12 OF THIS ARTICLE, WHEREIN A RESIDENT OF MARYLAND MAY LEGALLY FULFILL THE COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ARTICLE AND WHICH MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 (PUBLIC LAW 88-352).]]