shall take effect July 1, 1977.

Approved March 31, 1977.

CHAPTER 85

(House Bill 881)

AN ACT concerning

Frederick County - County Commissioners

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Frederick County Commissioners to provide payments for the legal defense and damages in suits against County officers or employees arising out of the performance of their duties; and specifying the condition under which the payments may be provided.

BY adding to

The Public Local Laws of Frederick County Section 2-7B Article 11 - Public Local Laws of Maryland (1959 Edition, as supplemented to December 1975, as amended)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 2-7B be and it is hereby added to the Public Local Laws of Frederick County being Article 11 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland (1959 Edition, as supplemented to December 1975, as amended) to read as follows:

## Article 11

2 - 7B.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN THEIR SOLE DISCRETION MAY PROVIDE ALL OR PART PAYMENTS FOR THE LEGAL DEFENSE AND DAMAGES FOR COURT ACTIONS INVOLVING COUNTY OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES WHO ARE SUED IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL CAPACITIES FOR ALLEGED WRONGS ARISING OUT OF PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES AS COUNTY OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES, IF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DETERMINE THAT THE OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES ACTED IN A PRUDENT MANNER IN THE MATTER WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF A SUIT AT LAW OR IN EQUITY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1977.

Approved March 31, 1977.