By: Delegate Ruth
Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2021
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Education – Disruption of School Activities – Repeal of Prohibition

FOR the purpose of repealing a provision of law prohibiting a person from willfully disturbing or otherwise willfully preventing the orderly conduct of activities, administration, or classes of any institution of elementary, secondary, or higher education; and generally relating to the disruption of activities in elementary, secondary, and higher education institutions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 26–101
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

26–101.

[(a) A person may not willfully disturb or otherwise willfully prevent the orderly conduct of the activities, administration, or classes of any institution of elementary, secondary, or higher education.]

[(b) (A) A person may not molest or threaten with bodily harm any student, employee, administrator, agent, or any other individual who is lawfully:

(1) On the grounds or in the immediate vicinity of any institution of elementary, secondary, or higher education;]
(2) On a school vehicle;

(3) At an activity sponsored by a school that is held off school property; or

(4) On property that is owned by a county board and is used for administrative or other purposes.

[(c)] (B) A person may not threaten with bodily harm any employee of any institution of elementary, secondary, or higher education at home by any means, including in person, by telephone, or by electronic mail. This prohibition applies only to threats arising out of the scope of the employee’s employment.

[(d)] (C) In addition to the penalties provided in this section or in § 6–409 of the Criminal Law Article, on application by the governing board of any institution of elementary, secondary, or higher education, the circuit court of the county in which the institution is located may issue an injunction restraining any specific activities that violate this section.

[(e)] (D) Any person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding $2,500, imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or both.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.