



**Agudath Israel of Maryland** אגודת ישראל במרילנד  
MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE

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**Rabbi Ariel Sadwin**  
Executive Director

**STATEMENT TO THE  
SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**SENATE BILL 827**

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS – ADEQUATE HEALTH SERVICES – ELIGIBILITY FOR  
REIMBURSEMENT**

**SUPPORT**

**MARCH 3, 2021**

Agudath Israel of Maryland (AIMD), the Mid-Atlantic regional office for Agudath Israel of America – a renown national Jewish advocacy organization, speaks on behalf of the Orthodox Jewish communities across Maryland. AIMD provides support and representation for the 30 Jewish day schools that operate in our great state and educate 10,000 students.

A year the likes of which the one we are experiencing has taught us many things. For any institution that bears responsibility for the children on its property day-in and day-out, having a medical presence in a school and having medical supplies available to treat students with any type of ailment, is indeed a must. Nonpublic schools who sustain themselves via tuition and fund-raising struggle mightily to cover their education budgets, let alone their medical budget. Assisting a nonpublic school cover its medical budget is indeed a worthy investment for county governments, as all children are worthy of access to medical attention and supplies while in school regardless of where they are educated.

Senate Bill 827 will provide a reimbursement from the county government for up to 50% of adequate health services in an eligible nonpublic school in its jurisdiction.

While this bill will only take effect at the conclusion of the COVID-impacted 20-21 school year, countless nonpublic schools who have gone to great lengths to provide safe in-person instruction, have undertaken a more robust medical offering in their schools than they previously did. The reimbursement opportunity provided to schools through this worthy bill will ensure that health services and supplies are always available to protect the children while in school in the future.

**Thank you for your support of SB 827 and we urge a favorable report.**

**PROTECTING**  **ADVOCATING**  **SERVING**