



WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Julie M. Giordano
County Executive

Bunky Luffman
Director of Administration

House Judiciary Committee
Attn: Hon. Delegate / Chairman Luke Clippinger
Room 101
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: MD 2023 HB 137 Civil Actions – Civil Immunity – Educator Intervention

Delegate / Chairman Clippinger & House Judiciary Committee Members,

Please accept this as a letter of support for *MD 2023 HB 137 Civil Actions – Civil Immunity – Educator Intervention*.

As County Executive of Wicomico County and as an educator in the Wicomico County Public Schools for over 17 years, I have witnessed incidents within the school that have escalated where teacher and/or staff intervention is essential for the safety of the students involved as well the safety of the other students. These situations also cause a major disruption within the school environment. If teachers have to worry about the pursuit of legal action against them and even potentially losing their job for intervening in a student conflict, they are deemed powerless in their classroom and other school settings.

Since the Covid pandemic, we have seen so many students suffering from learning loss and mental health issues. In 2020, it was reported by the Maryland Center for School Safety tip line that there was a 167% increase for weapons in school.

Safety of students while in the school building is a top concern of every teacher and staff member. This bill will give teachers the protections should they have to take action if an incident occurs, without having to worry about potential legal action against them and losing their jobs.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the committee for a favorable report for *MD 2023 HB 137 Civil Actions – Civil Immunity – Educator Intervention*

Thank You,



Julie M. Giordano
Wicomico County Executive