

# HOUSE BILL 700

F1, F2, F5

1lr2453

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By: **Delegate Ruth**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2021

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Disruption of School Activities – Repeal of Prohibition**

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

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Education

10 Section 26–101

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Education**

16 26–101.

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

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

22 (1) On the grounds or in the immediate vicinity of any institution of  
23 elementary, secondary, or higher education;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (2)    On a school vehicle;

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

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

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

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

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

17           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
18 1, 2021.