

## SUBCHAPTER III—PUBLIC FACILITIES

**§ 2000b. Civil actions by the Attorney General****(a) Complaint; certification; institution of civil action; relief requested; jurisdiction; impleading additional parties as defendants**

Whenever the Attorney General receives a complaint in writing signed by an individual to the effect that he is being deprived of or threatened with the loss of his right to the equal protection of the laws, on account of his race, color, religion, or national origin, by being denied equal utilization of any public facility which is owned, operated, or managed by or on behalf of any State or subdivision thereof, other than a public school or public college as defined in section 2000c of this title, and the Attorney General believes the complaint is meritorious and certifies that the signer or signers of such complaint are unable, in his judgment, to initiate and maintain appropriate legal proceedings for relief and that the institution of an action will materially further the orderly progress of desegregation in public facilities, the Attorney General is authorized to institute for or in the name of the United States a civil action in any appropriate district court of the United States against such parties and for such relief as may be appropriate, and such court shall have and shall exercise jurisdiction of proceedings instituted pursuant to this section. The Attorney General may implead as defendants such additional parties as are or become necessary to the grant of effective relief hereunder.

**(b) Persons unable to initiate and maintain legal proceedings**

The Attorney General may deem a person or persons unable to initiate and maintain appropriate legal proceedings within the meaning of subsection (a) of this section when such person or persons are unable, either directly or through other interested persons or organizations, to bear the expense of the litigation or to obtain effective legal representation; or whenever he is satisfied that the institution of such litigation would jeopardize the personal safety, employment, or economic standing of such person or persons, their families, or their property.

(Pub. L. 88-352, title III, §301, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 246.)

**§ 2000b-1. Liability of United States for costs and attorney's fee**

In any action or proceeding under this subchapter the United States shall be liable for costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee, the same as a private person.

(Pub. L. 88-352, title III, §302, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 246.)

**§ 2000b-2. Personal suits for relief against discrimination in public facilities**

Nothing in this subchapter shall affect adversely the right of any person to sue for or obtain relief in any court against discrimination in any facility covered by this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 88-352, title III, §303, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 246.)

**§ 2000b-3. "Complaint" defined**

A complaint as used in this subchapter is a writing or document within the meaning of section 1001, title 18.

(Pub. L. 88-352, title III, §304, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 246.)

## SUBCHAPTER IV—PUBLIC EDUCATION

**§ 2000c. Definitions**

As used in this subchapter—

(a) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Education.

(b) "Desegregation" means the assignment of students to public schools and within such schools without regard to their race, color, religion, sex or national origin, but "desegregation" shall not mean the assignment of students to public schools in order to overcome racial imbalance.

(c) "Public school" means any elementary or secondary educational institution, and "public college" means any institution of higher education or any technical or vocational school above the secondary school level, provided that such public school or public college is operated by a State, subdivision of a State, or governmental agency within a State, or operated wholly or predominantly from or through the use of governmental funds or property, or funds or property derived from a governmental source.

(d) "School board" means any agency or agencies which administer a system of one or more public schools and any other agency which is responsible for the assignment of students to or within such system.

(Pub. L. 88-352, title IV, §401, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 246; Pub. L. 92-318, title IX, §906(a), June 23, 1972, 86 Stat. 375; Pub. L. 96-88, title III, §301(a)(1), title V, §507, Oct. 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 677, 692.)

## AMENDMENTS

1972—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 92-318 inserted "sex" after "religion,".

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

"Secretary means the Secretary of Education" substituted for "Commissioner means the Commissioner of Education" in subsec. (a) pursuant to sections 301(a)(1) and 507 of Pub. L. 96-88, which are classified to sections 3441(a)(1) and 3507 of Title 20, Education, and which transferred all functions of Commissioner of Education of Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to Secretary of Education.

**§ 2000c-1. Omitted**

## CODIFICATION

Section, Pub. L. 88-352, title IV, §402, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 247, authorized the Commissioner to conduct a survey and make a report to the President and the Congress within two years of July, 1964 concerning the availability of educational opportunities for minority group members.

**§ 2000c-2. Technical assistance in preparation, adoption, and implementation of plans for desegregation of public schools**

The Secretary is authorized, upon the application of any school board, State, municipality,