

CHAPTER 12

(Senate Bill 128)

AN ACT concerning

Education – Public Schools – Constitution Day and Citizenship Day and Civic Responsibility for Students

FOR the purpose of acknowledging federal law that establishes Constitution Day and Citizenship Day and to celebrate that day in the public schools; ~~requiring~~ authorizing each county board to establish a certain program to teach students in its schools about the United States Constitution and the Maryland Constitution; ~~requiring~~ authorizing the program to include certain events ~~and~~, the opportunity for certain students to register to vote, and efforts to reinforce certain curricula; and generally relating to Constitution Day and Citizenship Day and civic responsibility for students.

BY adding to

Article – Education
Section 7–116
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2006 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Education

7–116.

(A) **THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION IS TO:**

(1) **ACKNOWLEDGE 36 U.S.C. § 106, WHICH DESIGNATES SEPTEMBER 17 OF EACH YEAR AS “CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY” TO COMMEMORATE THE SIGNING OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1787; AND**

(2) **CELEBRATE “CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY” IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND HELP INSTILL IN STUDENTS KNOWLEDGE OF THE HISTORY, IMPORTANCE, AND ENDURING MEANING OF THE UNITED STATES**

CONSTITUTION AND OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION ON THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE.

(B) (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUB. L. 108-447 § 111(B), EACH COUNTY BOARD ~~SHALL~~ MAY ESTABLISH A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION TO BE HELD ON “CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY” EACH YEAR TO TEACH STUDENTS ABOUT:

(I) THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION; AND

(II) THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION.

(2) THE PROGRAM OF EDUCATION ~~SHALL~~ MAY INCLUDE:

(I) SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES, DISCUSSIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND EVENTS COMMEMORATING THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION; ~~AND~~

(II) THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS TO REGISTER TO VOTE; AND

(III) EFFORTS TO REINFORCE EXISTING CURRICULA.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2007.