

HOUSE BILL 101

P1
HB 1428/06 – HGO

71r1534
CF 71r1536

By: **Delegates Burns, Anderson, Bohanan, Cane, Carter, Conaway, Doory,
Glenn, Howard, Jones, Lafferty, Levy, McIntosh, Morhaim,
Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Rosenberg, Stein, Vallario, and Vaughn**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2007
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government – Commemorative Months – Black History Months**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to proclaim the months of January and
4 February to be “Black History Months”.

5 BY adding to

6 Article – State Government

7 Section 13–502

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

10 Preamble

11 WHEREAS, February is the National Black History Month; and

12 WHEREAS, Many important events occurred during the month of January of
13 special importance to all Americans that play an important role in Black History,
14 including the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, the
15 passage the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution by Congress on January 31,
16 1865, which abolished slavery, and the ratification of the 24th Amendment of the U.S.
17 Constitution on January 23, 1964, which made it illegal to condition the right to vote
18 in federal elections on the payment of a poll tax or other tax and made it easier for
19 Black Americans to register to vote; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Many famous Black Americans were born during the month of
2 January, including Martin Luther King, Jr., George Washington Carver, Sojourner
3 Truth, and Nathaniel Turner; and

4 WHEREAS, All Americans should learn about and recognize the achievements
5 of Black Americans, the important role that Black Americans played throughout the
6 entire history of the United States, and the scientific, literary, and social impact of
7 Black Americans on our world today; and

8 WHEREAS, The General Assembly believes that the months of January and
9 February should be commemorated as the Black History Months in Maryland; now,
10 therefore,

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

13 **Article – State Government**

14 **13-502.**

15 (A) IN RECOGNITION OF THE HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTIONS THAT
16 BLACK AMERICANS HAVE MADE TO THE STATE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
17 PROCLAIM THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY EACH YEAR AS BLACK
18 HISTORY MONTHS.

19 (B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL URGE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL
20 ORGANIZATIONS TO OBSERVE BLACK HISTORY MONTHS PROPERLY WITH
21 APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES, AND ACTIVITIES.

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