

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 828 (Delegate Hixson)
Health and Government Operations

State Government - Commemorative Days - Saint David's Day

This emergency bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim March 1 as Saint David's Day.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Commemorating Saint David's Day does not affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Eight official commemorative days and three months are recognized in State law as shown in **Exhibit 1**. The Governor also must issue a proclamation each year encouraging citizens and other individuals to observe a moment of silence at 3 p.m. on Memorial Day to unite in remembrance and commemorate the heroic acts and efforts of Marylanders who have served and died in the U.S. armed forces.

Background: Saint David was a sixth century bishop and is the patron saint of Wales. He is celebrated on his feast day, March 1. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately 42,000 Marylanders reported they were of Welsh decent.

Exhibit 1
Official Commemorative Days and Months in Maryland

Asian Lunar New Year Day ¹	January/February
Black History Month	February
Women's History Month	March
John Hanson's Birthday ²	April 13
Negro Baseball League Day ³	May
Law Day	May 1
Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Workers Day ⁴	June
Maryland Charter Day	June 20
Hispanic Heritage Month ⁵	September/October
Poetry Day	October 15
Annapolis Charter Day	December 17

¹Day designated as new year on the Asian lunar calendar.

²John Hanson served as the first president of the Continental Congress under the Articles of Confederation from 1781 to 1782.

³Commemorated on the second Saturday in May.

⁴Commemorated on the first Sunday in June.

⁵Commemorated from September 15 to October 15.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 27, 2012
mlm/hlb

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