

Department of Legislative Services
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 29 (Senator Simonaire)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Government - Commemorative Day - Young Heroes Day

This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim the first Monday of October as Young Heroes Day. “Young hero” means a minor who is recognized by the residents of the State for the positive contribution the minor has made to society.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Commemorating Young Heroes 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: Young heroes are young people who have inspired and enriched the lives of others through such actions as community service, courageous acts, and leadership efforts. Commemoration of Young Heroes Day may help Marylanders learn more about and recognize the achievements of young heroes, their role in history, and their everyday impact.

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: SB 224 of 2011 received an unfavorable report from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. Its cross file, HB 282, received an unfavorable report from the House Health and Government Operations Committee. SB 134 of 2010 received a hearing in the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, but no further action was taken. Its cross file, HB 684, received an unfavorable report from the House Health and Government Operations Committee. SB 216 of 2009 passed the Senate but received an unfavorable report from the House Health and Government Operations Committee. Its cross file, HB 600, received an unfavorable report from the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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mlm/hlb

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