HOUSE BILL 1216

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 $SB\ 260/15 - EHE$

By: Delegates Chang, Beidle, Carey, Hornberger, S. Howard, Jackson, Malone, McConkey, Rose, Saab, Shoemaker, Simonaire, Sophocleus, and P. Young Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

| 1 | AN ACT concerning |
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| 2 | General Provisions - Commemorative Days - K9 Veterans Day |
| 3 4 | FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim a certain day as K9 Veterans Day; and generally relating to commemorative days. |
| 5 6 7 8 9 | BY renumbering Article – General Provisions Section 7–402 through 7–413, respectively to be Section 7–403 through 7–414, respectively Annotated Code of Maryland (2014 Volume and 2015 Supplement) |
| 11 12 13 14 15 | BY adding to Article – General Provisions Section 7–402 Annotated Code of Maryland (2014 Volume and 2015 Supplement) |
| 16 | Preamble |
| 17 18 19 | WHEREAS, K9 dogs are loyal, loving, and devoted, and have been placed in harm's way, making the ultimate sacrifice by laying down their lives for their human partners and |
| 20 21 22 | WHEREAS, Thousands of dogs have served with honor, dignity, and valor through the history of our country's birth and growth and have been employed by the United States military from World War I to present conflicts; and |
| | |

WHEREAS, The official K9 Corps was created on March 13, 1942; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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| 1 | WHEREAS, Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies have established K9 |
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| 2 | Corps units where dogs are trained for specialized activities such as bomb detection, drug |
| 3 | interdiction, search and rescue, border patrol, customs, and secret service; and |

- WHEREAS, Recognition of K9 Corps dogs is appropriate to honor their service to protect our communities, State, and country; now, therefore,
- SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 7–402 through 7–413, respectively, of Article – General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–403 through 7–414, respectively.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 12 Article General Provisions
- 13 **7–402.**
- THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM MARCH 13 AS K9 VETERANS DAY.
- SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.