

# SENATE BILL 1171

P1

8lr3791

---

By: **Senator Mathias**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2018

Assigned to: Rules

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Months – Maryland Sportsmen and**  
3 **Sportswomen Month**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim a certain month as  
5 Maryland Sportsmen and Sportswomen Month; requiring the proclamation to urge  
6 the Department of Natural Resources and local recreation and parks departments to  
7 observe Maryland Sportsmen and Sportswomen Month with certain activities; and  
8 generally relating to Maryland Sportsmen and Sportswomen Month.

9 BY renumbering

10 Article – General Provisions  
11 Section 7–503 through 7–506, respectively  
12 to be Section 7–504 through 7–507, respectively  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2014 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

15 BY adding to

16 Article – General Provisions  
17 Section 7–503  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2014 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

20 Preamble

21 WHEREAS, Five characteristics of sportsmanship are respect, fairness, integrity,  
22 responsibility, and perseverance; and

23 WHEREAS, Respect is treating others the way you want to be treated, tolerating  
24 differences, considering the feelings of others, and dealing peacefully with anger, insults,  
25 and disagreements; and

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Fairness is playing by the rules, being open-minded, listening to others,  
2 not taking advantage of others, and taking personal responsibility for your mistakes; and

3 WHEREAS, Integrity is playing with honor, being truthful and trustworthy, having  
4 the courage to do the right thing, being reliable, building a good reputation, and being loyal  
5 to your team and coaches; and

6 WHEREAS, Responsibility is doing what you are supposed to do, using self-control,  
7 being self-disciplined, thinking before you act, considering the consequences of your  
8 actions, being accountable for your choices, and accepting the rules of the game; and

9 WHEREAS, Perseverance is always trying your best, being persistent, and never  
10 giving up; and

11 WHEREAS, The Mid-Atlantic Recreation and Parks Sports Alliance holds its  
12 annual Good Sports Awards Ceremony in February in Annapolis; and

13 WHEREAS, Under the direction of Al "Hondo" Handy, the Ocean City Recreation  
14 and Parks Department and several other local partners across the State have successfully  
15 implemented sportsmanship months at the local level; now, therefore,

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
17 That Section(s) 7-503 through 7-506, respectively, of Article - General Provisions of the  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7-504 through 7-507,  
19 respectively.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
21 as follows:

22 **Article - General Provisions**

23 **7-503.**

24 **(A) THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF MARCH**  
25 **AS MARYLAND SPORTSMEN AND SPORTSWOMEN MONTH.**

26 **(B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL URGE THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL**  
27 **RESOURCES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH LOCAL RECREATION AND PARKS**  
28 **DEPARTMENTS, TO OBSERVE MARYLAND SPORTSMEN AND SPORTSWOMEN MONTH**  
29 **PROPERLY WITH APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES, AND ACTIVITIES.**

30 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
31 October 1, 2018.