Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE Third Reader

House Bill 1244 (Delegate Attar, et al.)

Health and Government Operations Education, Energy, and the Environment

Maryland Holocaust Remembrance Day

This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim January 27 as Maryland Holocaust Remembrance Day. The proclamation must declare the day (1) as a day of reflection, recollection, and determination for Maryland families, educators, religious communities, political bodies, and media to remember the human tragedy that is the Holocaust and (2) a pledge to spread the lessons and the reality of the Holocaust to future generations in an effort to ensure that we never forget and bear witness to the mass slaughter of human beings as a consequence of prejudice, bigotry, ignorance, and hate.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Commemorating Maryland Holocaust Remembrance Day does not affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Sixteen official commemorative days, seven months, and one week 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 3:00 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.

Exhibit 1 Official Commemorative Days and Months in Maryland

Asian Lunar New Year Day¹ January/February

Black History Month February Irish-American Heritage Month March Women's History Month March Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day² March Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day March 30 Crime Victim and Advocate Commemorative Day April 3 John Hanson's Birthday³ April 13 National Healthcare Decisions Day April 16 Maryland Centenarians Day⁴ May Negro Baseball League Day⁵ May Law Day U.S.A. May 1 Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Workers Day⁶ June Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week⁷ June Maryland Charter Day June 20 Thurgood Marshall Day July 2 Caribbean Heritage Month August

Hispanic Heritage Month⁸ September/October

German-American Heritage Month

South Asian American Heritage Day

Poetry Day

October 2

October 15

American Indian Heritage Month

Maryland Emancipation Day

Annapolis Charter Day

October 1

November 1

December 17

Source: Department of Legislative Services

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

² Commemorated on the fourth Thursday in March.

³ John Hanson served as the first president of the Continental Congress under the Articles of Confederation from 1781 to 1782.

⁴Commemorated on the second Thursday in May.

⁵ Commemorated on the second Saturday in May.

⁶Commemorated on the first Sunday in June.

⁷Commemorated during the second week in June.

⁸ Commemorated from September 15 to October 15.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last

three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 842 (Senator Kramer, et al.) - Education, Energy, and the

Environment.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2023 rh/lgc Third Reader - March 21, 2023

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