Yet even after Maryland's emancipation on Nov.1, 1864 former slaves faced problems. Owners evicted slaves from their homes, or refused to pay wages and apprenticed their children into long term contracts. Some even tried to go after former slaves whom they said owed them money. In an incident recounted in "Freedom" a multi- volume series a sheriff arrested a freed slave in Washington in March 1866- almost two years after Maryland emancipated its slaves- and took him to Maryland. There he was accused of using his former master's horse and cart while attempting to escape with his family in 1863.

Chair Pinsky, Guzzone and committee members, In Our Unites States of America, where freedom is so cherished, Emancipation Day is only celebrated in **FIVE** states (Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Texas, Kentucky, and Washington D.C.).

We were one of the *LAST* states to Emancipate slaves, Let's be one of the *First* to celebrate Emancipation Day on November 1st, by giving SB76 your Favorable Support.

Arthur Ellis

District 28 Charles County