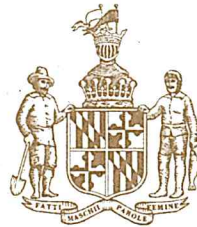


MICHAEL A. JACKSON
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Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Pensions

Public Safety, Transportation, and
Environment

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 100

***GENERAL PROVISIONS – COMMEMORATIVE DAYS –
OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY***

***EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE***

MARCH 10, 2022

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 100 is a very straightforward bill that simply requires the Governor to annually proclaim August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day.

Each year Maryland loses thousands of residents to drug overdoses and drug-related death. The purpose of this legislation is to clearly enshrine August 31st as a date to recognize those deaths and this epidemic and to encourage those currently suffering to seek support and treatment.

As someone who spent the majority of his professional career in law enforcement, I have seen firsthand the impact that drug addiction can have on individuals and to their loved ones. Reducing the stigma attached to seeking treatment for addiction would save countless lives. I am hopeful that declaring August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day would be a means to reduce said stigma and to quell the suffering of those who are addicted and those who love them.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 100.



SB0100/623725/1

AMENDMENTS
PREPARED
BY THE
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES

08 MAR 22
10:06:05

BY: Senator Jackson

(To be offered in the Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 100

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, after “Day” insert “; requiring the Governor annually to order that the State flag be flown at half-staff on a certain day; and generally relating to Overdose Awareness Day”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 19, before “**THE**” insert “**(A)**”; and after line 20, insert:

“(B) THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL ORDER THE STATE FLAG TO BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF ON AUGUST 31.”