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By: **Senators Mitchell, Hughes, McFadden, and Exum**  
Introduced and read first time: February 24, 1999  
Assigned to: Rules  
Re-referred to: Economic and Environmental Affairs, February 26, 1999

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 22, 1999

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Public School Holidays**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a public school  
4 holiday; repealing the requirement that public schools devote part of the day to  
5 appropriate activities on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; ~~repealing the authority of~~  
6 ~~public schools in certain counties to remain open on primary and general~~  
7 ~~election days~~; and generally relating to public school holidays in the State.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Education  
10 Section 7-103(c)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Education**

16 7-103.

- 17 (c) (1) The following days are public school holidays:
- 18 (i) Thanksgiving Day and the day after;
  - 19 (ii) Christmas Eve and from then through January 1;

- 1 (iii) MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY;  
 2 (IV) The Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday  
 3 after Easter;  
 4 [(iv)] (V) Memorial Day; and  
 5 [(v)] (VI) Primary and general election days.

6 (2) If the federal and State observances of a holiday are on different  
 7 days, the board of education of each county shall determine which date shall be the  
 8 date of observance for the public schools within the county.

9 (3) The public schools shall devote a part of the day to appropriate  
 10 exercises for the following days:

- 11 (i) Washington's Birthday;  
 12 (ii) Lincoln's Birthday;  
 13 (iii) Veterans' Day;  
 14 (iv) Columbus Day;  
 15 (v) [Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;  
 16 (vi)] Arbor Day; and  
 17 [(vii)] (VI) Any other day of national significance.

18 {4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, the public  
 19 schools, in the following counties, may remain open and in session on primary and  
 20 general election days:

- 21 (i) Calvert;  
 22 (ii) Caroline;  
 23 (iii) Dorchester;  
 24 (iv) Kent;  
 25 (v) Talbot; and  
 26 (vi) Worcester.}

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 28 July 1, 1999.

