

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 12

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P1

2000 Regular Session
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By: **Senator Mitchell**

Constitutional Requirements Complied with for Introduction in the last 35 Days of Session

Introduced and read first time: March 7, 2000

Assigned to: Rules

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Harriet Tubman Day**

3 FOR the purpose of recognizing the contributions of Harriet Tubman; and designating
4 March 10th as "Harriet Tubman Day" in Maryland.

5 WHEREAS, From time to time we take note of certain individuals whom we
6 wish to recognize for their valued contributions and to publicly acknowledge their
7 endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

8 WHEREAS, It is the sense of the General Assembly of Maryland to recognize
9 Harriet Ross Tubman for her resourceful efforts in bringing countless African
10 American slaves out of bondage and to ensure that the rich historical legacy she
11 established will never be forgotten and to celebrate her life achievements throughout
12 Maryland; and

13 WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman was born on the Eastern Shore of Maryland
14 around 1820 on a plantation in Dorchester County, Maryland, and escaped from
15 slavery in 1849; and

16 WHEREAS, Upon gaining her freedom, Harriet Tubman initially settled in
17 Philadelphia where she met William Still, the Philadelphia Stationmaster of the
18 "Underground Railroad" who along with the Philadelphia Anti-Slavery Society
19 introduced Harriet Tubman to the inner workings of the "Underground Railroad"; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1850, Harriet Tubman became a conductor on the "Underground
21 Railroad" and eventually became the most influential of all the conductors by
22 returning to the South nineteen times through the "Underground Railroad", freeing
23 300 slaves; and

24 WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman claims "she never ran her train off the track and
25 never lost a passenger," thereby gaining the title "Black Moses of Her People"; and

26 WHEREAS, In 1851, Harriet Tubman relocated members of her family to North
27 Street in St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada, which became her headquarters for the
28 "Underground Railroad" until 1857; and

1 WHEREAS, When the Civil War began, Harriet Tubman worked as a cook in the
2 Union Army in South Carolina and served as a nurse, a scout for raiding parties, and
3 a spy behind confederate lines; and

4 WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman is an inspiration to many people, and her
5 dedication and commitment to the numerous slaves held in bondage have proven her
6 to be the epitome of true leadership; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
8 General Assembly of Maryland recognizes the contributions of Harriet Tubman and
9 designates March 10th to be "Harriet Tubman Day"; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
11 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
12 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
13 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
16 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
17 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;
18 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,
19 Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and
20 Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.