

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

Re-referred to: Economic and Environmental Affairs, March 13, 2000

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 24, 2000

RESOLUTION NO. _____

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

1 returning to the South nineteen times through the "Underground Railroad", freeing
2 300 slaves; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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