

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 25

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2001 Regular Session  
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By: **Delegate Arnick**

Introduced and read first time: February 23, 2001

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Emu Awareness Week**

3 FOR the purpose of designating April 7 through 15, 2001, as "Emu Awareness Week".

4 WHEREAS, The emu is a gentle, docile bird, native to Australia, and  
5 environmentally friendly to raise; and

6 WHEREAS, Emu breeding is currently one of the fastest growing agricultural  
7 businesses in the United States, with the State of Maryland home to at least fifty  
8 emu farms, some of which have been operating for over 10 years; and

9 WHEREAS, A growing sector of the State of Maryland's agricultural economy is  
10 supported from the efforts and contributions of the members of the Maryland Emu  
11 Association, who are involved in raising, processing, and marketing emu products;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Thirty-eight states, including Maryland, have established emu  
14 associations; and

15 WHEREAS, A recent study from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, confirms  
16 that emu meat is lower in fat and cholesterol, and higher in protein and other  
17 nutrients, including iron, when compared to bison, venison, elk, and ostrich; and

18 WHEREAS, Recent federal legislation mandates USDA inspection of emu meat;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, An adult emu is almost totally usable, yielding not only red meat,  
21 but also a unique, penetrating oil that has been used for relieving arthritis,  
22 preventing scars, and treating eczema, and hide that can be used to produce boots,  
23 belts, and luggage; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the  
25 General Assembly of Maryland designate April 7 through 15, 2001, as "Emu  
26 Awareness Week"; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
28 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;

- 1 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
- 2 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.