

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Joint Resolution 4 (Delegate Branch, *et al.*)

Commerce and Government Matters Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

American Indian Heritage Month

This joint resolution designates November as American Indian Heritage month. State and local governments, schools, libraries, and other organizations are encouraged to appropriately observe this month. The joint resolution also encourages the State and local governments to use the month of November to assess ways to improve understanding, cooperation, and communication with American Indians.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Designating November as American Indian Heritage month and establishing observation events would not materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: None -- see above.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Governor's Office requires that an official request for a proclamation be made annually. In recent years, the Governor's Office has issued a proclamation recognizing November as American Indian Heritage Month. This proclamation, however, was not issued in 2001.

Background: Based on the 2000 census, there are 15,423 American Indians and Native Alaskans living in Maryland. This represents 0.3% of the State's population. Indian tribes in Maryland include, but are not limited to, the Lumbees, who moved from North

Carolina to the Baltimore area during World War II, the Piscataway of Southern Maryland, the Nanticoke of the Eastern Shore, and the Shawnee in Western Maryland.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SJ 4 (Senator Conway, *et al.*) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source: Governor's Office, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Legislative Services

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Analysis by: Hiram L. Burch Jr.

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510