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By: Delegates Amedori, Aumann, Bartlett, Bates, Boschert, Boteler, Boutin, Burns, Cadden, G. Clagett, V. Clagett, Conroy, Costa, C. Davis, DeBoy, Donoghue, Dwyer, Edwards, Elliott, Frank, Glassman, Harrison, Hogan, Hutchins, Impallaria, James, Jameson, Jennings, Kach, Kaiser, Kelly, Krebs, Love, McComas, McDonough, McHale, McKee, Minnick, Myers, O'Donnell, Owings, Parrott, Shank, Smigiel, Sossi, Stocksdale, Stull, Trueschler, F. Turner, and Weldon

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2003 Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

## A BILL ENTITLED

## 1 AN ACT concerning

## 2 State Government - Plaque Commemorating the Bataan Death March

- 3 FOR the purpose of requiring that a plaque be placed in a certain location to honor
- 4 the soldiers who were forced to participate in what has become known as the
- 5 Bataan Death March during World War II; requiring the Governor to appoint
- 6 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to oversee the design, construction, and
- 7 placement of the plaque; requiring the Governor to appropriate certain funds for
- 8 the design, construction, and placement of the plaque; and generally relating to
- 9 commemorating the soldiers forced to participate in the Bataan Death March.
- 10~ SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 11 MARYLAND, That:
- 12 (a) A plaque shall be placed in the State House or on the grounds of the State
- 13 House to honor the sacrifices of the American and Filipino soldiers who, in April 1942,
- 14 were ordered to surrender and forced by the enemy to march up to 10 days without
- 15 food or water in a horrific episode of World War II that has become known as the
- 16 Bataan Death March;
- 17 (b) The Governor shall appoint the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to oversee the
- 18 design, construction, and placement of the plaque; and
- 19 (c) The Governor shall appropriate the funds necessary for the design,
- 20 construction, and placement of the plaque.
- 21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
- 22 effect October 1, 2003.