

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Joint Resolution 2 (Delegate Hixson, *et al.*)

Rules and Executive Nominations

Centennial Anniversary of the Korean-American Community

This joint resolution requests the General Assembly to commemorate and designate 2003 as the centennial anniversary of Korean-American immigration to the United States. The citizens of Maryland are encouraged to learn more about, reflect on, and appreciate the unique and invaluable contributions of Maryland's Korean-American community.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Commemorating the Centennial Anniversary of Korean-American immigration to the United States would not affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Not applicable.

Background: Maryland is home to almost 40,000 Korean-Americans. Montgomery County has the largest Korean-American community in Maryland. The community there numbers over 15,000 representing 1.7% of the county's population. Next is Howard County, where 6,200 Korean-Americans represent 2.5% of the county's population. **Exhibit 1** shows the number of Korean-Americans living in each county in Maryland.

The first Korean immigrants to the United States arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii on January 13, 1903. Over the next two years, approximately 7,000 Koreans immigrated to the United States working as contract laborers for sugar plantations. Today, the Korean-American community totals over 1.1 million people.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services, United States Census Bureau

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 27, 2003
ncs/jr

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**Korean Americans in Maryland
2000 Census**

<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent of Population</u>
Allegany	53	0.1
Anne Arundel	3,603	0.7
Baltimore City	1,826	0.3
Baltimore	5,249	0.7
Calvert	73	0.1
Caroline	55	0.2
Carroll	267	0.2
Cecil	97	0.1
Charles	392	0.3
Dorchester	8	*
Frederick	564	0.3
Garrett	9	*
Harford	801	0.4
Howard	6,188	2.5
Kent	9	*
Montgomery	15,130	1.7
Prince George's	3,843	0.5
Queen Anne's	53	0.1
St. Mary's	145	0.2
Somerset	6	*
Talbot	61	0.2
Washington	140	0.1
Wicomico	524	0.6
Worcester	59	0.1
Total	39,155	0.7

** represents zero or rounds to zero*

Source: United States Census Bureau