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By: **Delegates Lee, Goldwater, Stern, Anderson, Barkley, Barve, Benson, Bobo, Bohanan, Boschert, Branch, Bronrott, Brown, Burns, Cane, Carter, Cryor, C. Davis, D. Davis, Doory, Dumais, Eckardt, Feldman, Franchot, Frush, Gaines, Gilleland, Griffith, Gutierrez, Hammen, Harrison, Haynes, Healey, Heller, Hixson, Hogan, Holmes, Howard, Hubbard, Jones, Kaiser, Kelley, King, Kirk, Krysiak, Lawton, Love, Madaleno, Mandel, Marriott, Mayer, McComas, McIntosh, Menes, Miller, Montgomery, Morhaim, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Patterson, Petzold, Pugh, Quinter, Ramirez, Rosenberg, Shank, Shewell, Simmons, Smigiel, Sophocleus, Sossi, Taylor, F. Turner, V. Turner, Vallario, Vaughn, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2006  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government - Commemorative Days - Asian Lunar New Year Day**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to annually proclaim a certain day as  
4 Asian Lunar New Year Day; and generally relating to commemorative days.

5 BY adding to  
6 Article - State Government  
7 Section 13-405  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

10 Preamble

11 WHEREAS, Dating from 2600 B.C., the Asian lunar calendar is the oldest  
12 calendar on earth and the longest chronological record in history; and

13 WHEREAS, The new year on the Asian lunar calendar begins at the second  
14 lunar month after the winter solstice; and

15 WHEREAS, The lunar new year is a time of commemoration, celebration, and  
16 deep meaning for millions of people throughout the world, including people in the  
17 United States and the State of Maryland; and

1 WHEREAS, The lunar new year is of particular significance to countless  
2 Americans, especially numerous Asian Americans, including those of Chinese,  
3 Korean, and Vietnamese descent now living in Maryland; and

4 WHEREAS, The many individuals who celebrate the lunar new year have  
5 greatly enriched the nation and the State of Maryland; now, therefore,

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
7 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article - State Government**

9 13-405.

10 IN RECOGNITION OF THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE  
11 MANY MARYLANDERS FOR WHOM THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLDS SPECIAL  
12 SIGNIFICANCE, THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM THE DAY DESIGNATED  
13 AS NEW YEAR ON THE ASIAN LUNAR CALENDAR AS ASIAN LUNAR NEW YEAR DAY.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 2006.