
By: Delegates Frank, Aumann, Bohanan, Boteler, Bromwell, Cadden, Cluster, Elliott, Jennings, Kach, King, McComas, McDonough, Smigiel, Sophocleus, V. Turner, Weir, and Weldon Weldon, Hammen, Goldwater, Barve, Costa, Donoghue, Hubbard, Kohl, Kullen, Mandel, Morhaim, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, and Rudolph

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2006

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 20, 2006

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government - Maryland Flag Day**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing Maryland Flag Day on a certain date each year; and
4 generally relating to the Maryland State Flag.

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, The Maryland State Flag was officially adopted as our State Flag
12 by the General Assembly on March 9, 1904; and

13 WHEREAS, The Maryland State Flag is the most unique and arguably the most
14 beautiful of all state flags;

15 WHEREAS, The Maryland State Flag features four panels with two designs
16 that represent the coat-of-arms of Lord Calvert's family; and

1 WHEREAS, The yellow and black design came from Lord Calvert's father's side,
2 the Calvert family, while the red and white cross design came from his mother's side,
3 the Crosslands; and

4 WHEREAS, During the Civil War, the Union soldiers who fought from
5 Maryland flew the yellow and black banner while the Confederate soldiers from
6 Maryland flew the red and white cross banner, which became known as the
7 "Maryland Cross"; and

8 WHEREAS, After the Civil War, Maryland's Fifth Regiment Armory, which was
9 composed of veterans from the North and the South, adopted a combination banner
10 honoring all those who fought from Maryland. This emblem, resembling the
11 Maryland State Seal, is still used as the insignia for the Maryland National Guard;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Because the State Flag does not have a distinct top or bottom, it is
14 common to see the flag flown incorrectly; and

15 WHEREAS, An annual Maryland Flag Day would promote education on the
16 history of the flag and how it should be flown; and

17 WHEREAS, An annual Maryland Flag Day would also promote the display of
18 this beautiful banner; and

19 WHEREAS, There is no other symbol that symbolizes Maryland more than the
20 State Flag; and

21 WHEREAS, Governor Ehrlich proclaimed March 9, 2004, Maryland Flag Day to
22 celebrate the centennial of our State Flag; now, therefore,

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

25 **Article - State Government**

26 13-405.

27 ~~(A) THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM MARCH 9 AS MARYLAND~~
28 ~~FLAG DAY.~~

29 ~~(B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL:~~

30 ~~(1) ENCOURAGE ALL CITIZENS OF MARYLAND TO DISPLAY THE~~
31 ~~MARYLAND STATE FLAG ON THE OUTSIDE OF THEIR HOMES AND BUSINESSES; AND~~

32 ~~(2) ENCOURAGE MARYLAND'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO:~~

33 ~~(1) FLY THE STATE FLAG EACH DAY; AND~~

1 (H) ~~TEACH STUDENTS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE STATE FLAG~~
2 ~~AND HOW IT SHOULD BE FLOWN.~~

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