SENATE BILL 240

P1 7lr1536 HB 1428/06 – HGO CF HB 101

By: Senators Exum, Conway, Currie, Gladden, Jones, Muse, and Rosapepe Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2007

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

State Government - Commemorative Months - Black History Months

1 AN ACT concerning

- 3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to proclaim the months of January and
- 4 February to be "Black History Months".
- 5 BY adding to

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- 6 Article State Government
- 7 Section 13–502
- 8 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 9 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)
- 10 Preamble
- 11 WHEREAS, February is the National Black History Month; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Many important events occurred during the month of January of
- 13 special importance to all Americans that play an important role in Black History,
- 14 including the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, the
- passage the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution by Congress on January 31,
- 16 1865, which abolished slavery, and the ratification of the 24th Amendment of the U.S.
- 17 Constitution on January 23, 1964, which made it illegal to condition the right to vote
- in federal elections on the payment of a poll tax or other tax and made it easier for
- 19 Black Americans to register to vote; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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October 1, 2007.

1	WHEREAS, Many famous Black Americans were born during the month of
2	January, including Martin Luther King, Jr., George Washington Carver, Sojourner
3	Truth, and Nathaniel Turner; and
4	WHEREAS, All Americans should learn about and recognize the achievements
5	of Black Americans, the important role that Black Americans played throughout the
6	entire history of the United States, and the scientific, literary, and social impact of
7	Black Americans on our world today; and
8	WHEREAS, The General Assembly believes that the months of January and
9	February should be commemorated as the Black History Months in Maryland; now,
10	therefore,
11	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12	MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
13	Article - State Government
14	13-502.
15	(A) IN RECOGNITION OF THE HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTIONS THAT
16	BLACK AMERICANS HAVE MADE TO THE STATE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL
17	PROCLAIM THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY EACH YEAR AS BLACK
18	HISTORY MONTHS.
19	(B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL URGE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL

ORGANIZATIONS TO OBSERVE BLACK HISTORY MONTHS PROPERLY WITH

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES, AND ACTIVITIES.