## SENATE BILL 406

P1 7lr1737 CF 7lr1734 HB 1244/06 – HGO

By: Senator Harris

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2007

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

## A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning 1

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18 19

the Crosslands; and

2 **Maryland Flag Day** 3 FOR the purpose of establishing Maryland Flag Day on a certain date each year; and generally relating to the Maryland State Flag. 4 5 BY adding to 6 Article – State Government 7 Section 13–406 8 Annotated Code of Maryland 9 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement) 10 Preamble 11 WHEREAS, The Maryland State Flag was officially adopted as our State Flag by the General Assembly on March 9, 1904; and 12 13 WHEREAS, The Maryland State Flag is the most unique and arguably the most beautiful of all state flags; and 14 WHEREAS, The Maryland State Flag features four panels with two designs 15 that represent the coat-of-arms of Lord Calvert's family; and 16

WHEREAS, The yellow and black design came from Lord Calvert's father's side,

the Calvert family, while the red and white cross design came from his mother's side,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 2 3 4	WHEREAS, During the Civil War, the Union soldiers who fought from Maryland flew the yellow and black banner while the Confederate soldiers from Maryland flew the red and white cross banner, which became known as the "Maryland Cross"; and
5 6 7 8	WHEREAS, After the Civil War, Maryland's Fifth Regiment Armory, which was composed of veterans from the North and the South, adopted a combination banner honoring all those who fought from Maryland. This emblem, resembling the Maryland State Seal, is still used as the insignia for the Maryland National Guard; and
9 10	WHEREAS, Because the State Flag does not have a distinct top or bottom, it is common to see the flag flown incorrectly; and
11 12	WHEREAS, An annual Maryland Flag Day would promote education on the history of the flag and how it should be flown; and
13 14	WHEREAS, An annual Maryland Flag Day would also promote the display of this beautiful banner; and
15 16	WHEREAS, There is no other symbol that symbolizes Maryland more than the State Flag; and
17 18	WHEREAS, Governor Ehrlich proclaimed March 9, 2004, Maryland Flag Day to celebrate the centennial of our State Flag; now, therefore,
19 20	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
21	Article - State Government
22	13–406.
23 24	THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM MARCH 9 AS MARYLAND FLAG DAY.
25 26	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2007.