

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 24 (Delegate V. Clagett)
Health and Government Operations

State Government - Commemorative Days - Maryland Charter Day

This bill requires the Governor to proclaim June 20 as Maryland Charter Day.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Commemorating Maryland Charter Day would not affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Four official commemorative days and one month are recognized in State law as shown in **Exhibit 1**. The Governor also must issue a proclamation each year encouraging citizens and other individuals to observe a moment of silence at 3 p.m. on Memorial Day to unite in remembrance and commemorate the heroic acts and efforts of Marylanders who have served and died in the U.S. armed forces.

Background: King Charles I granted Cecelius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, a charter for the Maryland Colony on June 20, 1632. On November 22, 1633, the Ark and the Dove sailed for America with almost 200 settlers on board. On March 25, 1634, Lord Calvert and his group of English settlers landed on St. Clement's Island, marking the official origin of Maryland. This year (2007) will mark the 375th anniversary of the granting of the Maryland charter by King Charles I.

Maryland Day is celebrated on March 25 each year to commemorate the landing of the first English settlers.

Exhibit 1
Official Commemorative Days and Months in Maryland

Asian Lunar New Year Day ¹	January
John Hanson's Birthday ²	April 13
Law Day	May 1
Poetry Day	October 15
Women's History Month	March

¹Day designated as new year on the Asian lunar calendar.

²John Hanson served as the first president of the Continental Congress under the Articles of Confederation from 1781 to 1782.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 5 (Senators Forehand and Miller) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source: Department of Legislative Services

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Analysis by: Hiram L. Burch Jr.

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510