

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Joint Resolution 5 (Senator Conway)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Birth of Enoch Pratt - Bicentennial Celebration

This joint resolution requests the Governor to dedicate 2008, the bicentennial of the birth of Enoch Pratt, to the memory and honor of Enoch Pratt in recognition of the many institutions throughout Maryland that bear his name and the ongoing impact of his philanthropy.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Compliance with this joint resolution would not affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Many institutions throughout Maryland are named in recognition of Enoch Pratt, including the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore City and the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Baltimore County. Pratt Street, a major thoroughfare in Baltimore City that parallels the Inner Harbor, is named in his honor.

Background: Enoch Pratt was born in 1808 in North Middleborough, Massachusetts. In 1831, he moved to Baltimore to start a hardware business on South Charles Street. He subsequently became a leading businessman and philanthropist supporting numerous institutions that continue to benefit the people of Maryland including the Enoch Pratt

Free Library, Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, the Maryland School for the Deaf, the Peabody Institute, and the Maryland Science Center. Due to his commitment and support of Maryland institutions, the General Assembly adopted a joint resolution in 1882 that resolved "...that the name of Enoch Pratt be added to the list of public benefactors whom the people of Maryland will hold in perpetual and grateful remembrance." Enoch Pratt died in 1896.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 21, 2008
ncs/hlb

Analysis by: Hiram L. Burch Jr.

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