

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1516 (Delegate Busch, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

State Government - Commemorative Days - Annapolis Charter Day

This bill requires the Governor to proclaim November 22 as Annapolis Charter Day.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Commemorating Annapolis Charter Day would not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal impact on Annapolis small businesses on and around November 22 each year.

Analysis

Current Law: Four official commemorative days and two months 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: On November 22, 1708, the residents of Annapolis received a Royal Charter from Queen Anne of Great Britain that granted them powers of self-government. On December 17, 1708, the General Assembly confirmed and codified Annapolis' chartered powers of self-government, making Annapolis the first incorporated

municipality in Maryland. The three-hundredth anniversary of the granting of the city's original charter is 2008.

Exhibit 1 **Official Commemorative Days and Months in Maryland**

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

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: None.

Information Source(s): City of Annapolis, Department of Legislative Services

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