

HOUSE BILL 115

P1

9lr0418

By: **Delegate Ali**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2009

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Punjabi Cultural Awareness Day Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim a certain day as
4 Punjabi Cultural Awareness Day; and generally relating to commemorative
5 days.

6 BY adding to
7 Article – State Government
8 Section 13–408
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

11 Preamble

12 WHEREAS, Punjabi culture, the culture of the Punjab region of India and
13 Pakistan, is one of the oldest and richest cultures in the world; and

14 WHEREAS, Ancient Punjabi culture is recognized for its high sophistication
15 and architectural excellence; and

16 WHEREAS, Punjabi, the language spoken by inhabitants of the Punjab region
17 and their diasporas, is spoken by more than 90,000,000 people, making Punjabi the
18 11th most widely spoken language in the world; and

19 WHEREAS, While most of the Punjabi live in Pakistan or India, a significant
20 number of Punjabi communities exist in almost 30 other countries, including the
21 United States where nearly 500,000 Punjabi live; and

22 WHEREAS, Due to the large number of Punjabi located around the world,
23 modern Punjabi culture is changing other cultures as it strengthens and expands
24 itself; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



