

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 260 (Delegates King and Kipke)  
Health and Government Operations

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State Government - Commemorative Days - Juvenile Diabetes Day

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This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim April 6 as Juvenile Diabetes Day.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Commemorating Juvenile Diabetes Day does not affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Six 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:** Juvenile diabetes, or Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system destroys the insulin-producing cells of the pancreas. Diagnosis most often occurs in childhood and adolescence, although it can appear at any age. People with diabetes take insulin injections or infuse insulin through a pump to manage blood sugar levels. However, insulin is not a cure. Juvenile diabetes can still lead to kidney failure, blindness, nerve damage, amputations, heart attack, and stroke.

According to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, as many as three million Americans may have Type 1 diabetes. Nationwide, over 15,000 children are diagnosed with diabetes each year. Juvenile diabetes accounts for 5 to 10% of all diagnosed cases of diabetes.

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

Asian Lunar New Year Day <sup>1</sup>	January/February
Black History Month	February
Women's History Month	March
John Hanson's Birthday <sup>2</sup>	April 13
Law Day	May 1
Maryland Charter Day	June 20
Poetry Day	October 15
Annapolis Charter Day	December 17

<sup>1</sup>Day designated as new year on the Asian lunar calendar.

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

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** HB 202 of 2008 received an unfavorable report by the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 3, 2009  
mcp/hlb

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