

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 146 (Delegate Hough, *et al.*)
Health and Government Operations

State Government - Commemorative Days - Ronald Reagan Day

This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim February 6 as Ronald Reagan Day.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Commemorating Ronald Reagan Day does not affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Eight official commemorative days and three 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: Ronald Wilson Reagan was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois. Reagan moved to California where he became an actor and president of the Screen Actors' Guild. He later served two terms as Governor of California, from 1967 to 1975. In 1980, he was elected as the fortieth President of the United States; he served two terms from 1981 to 1989. Reagan died at his home in Bel-Air, California on June 5, 2004.

In July 2010, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into California law a bill declaring February 6 as Ronald Reagan Day.

Exhibit 1
Official Commemorative Days and Months in Maryland

Asian Lunar New Year Day ¹	January/February
Black History Month	February
Women's History Month	March
John Hanson's Birthday ²	April 13
Negro Baseball League Day ³	May
Law Day	May 1
Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Workers Day ⁴	June
Maryland Charter Day	June 20
Hispanic Heritage Month ⁵	September/October
Poetry Day	October 15
Annapolis Charter Day	December 17

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.

³Commemorated on the second Saturday in May.

⁴Commemorated on the first Sunday in June.

⁵Commemorated from September 15 to October 15.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None. However, SJ 1 of 2008, which contained similar provisions, received an unfavorable report from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

Cross File: SB 238 (Senator Shank, *et al.*) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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ncs/hlb

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