

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 238 (Senator Shank, *et al.*)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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State Government - Commemorative Days - Ronald Reagan Day

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

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Fiscal Summary

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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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.

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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
Negro Baseball League Day <sup>3</sup>	May
Law Day	May 1
Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Workers Day <sup>4</sup>	June
Maryland Charter Day	June 20
Hispanic Heritage Month <sup>5</sup>	September/October
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.

<sup>3</sup>Commemorated on the second Saturday in May.

<sup>4</sup>Commemorated on the first Sunday in June.

<sup>5</sup>Commemorated from September 15 to October 15.

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**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:** HB 146 (Delegate Hough, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 1, 2011  
ncs/hlb

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