

HOUSE BILL 1352

P1

EMERGENCY BILL

3lr3111

By: **Delegates Carter, Carr, and Oaks**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2013

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government – Commemorative Days – Earth Hour**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring, except under certain circumstances, the Governor
4 annually to issue an order, in observance of Earth Hour, that the lights in
5 certain buildings be turned off on a certain day at a certain time and remain off
6 for a certain period of time; making this Act an emergency measure; and
7 generally relating to Earth Hour.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – State Government

10 Section 13–411

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – State Government**

16 **13–411.**

17 **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS**
18 **SECTION, THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL ISSUE AN ORDER, IN OBSERVANCE**
19 **OF EARTH HOUR, THAT REQUIRES THE LIGHTS OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE AND**
20 **THE STATE HOUSE TO BE TURNED OFF ON THE LAST SATURDAY IN MARCH AT**
21 **8:30 P.M. AND TO REMAIN OFF FOR 1 HOUR.**

22 **(B) THE GOVERNOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO ISSUE AN ORDER UNDER**
23 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IF EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST THAT**
24 **MAKE ISSUING THE ORDER ILL-ADVISED.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(C) THE ORDER ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION MAY**
2 **NOT REQUIRE THE LIGHTS OF THE STATE HOUSE TO BE TURNED OFF IF EITHER**
3 **HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS CONVENED A SESSION IN THE**
4 **CHAMBER OF THE HOUSE.**

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
6 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety,
7 has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members
8 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from
9 the date it is enacted.