

Department of Legislative Services
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 118 (Senator Simonaire)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Government - Commemorative Day - Young Heroes Day

This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim the first Monday of October as Young Heroes Day. “Young hero” means a minor who is recognized by the residents of the State for the positive contribution the minor has made to society.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Commemorating Young Heroes Day does not affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Nine 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: Young heroes are young people who have inspired and enriched the lives of others through such actions as community service, courageous acts, and leadership efforts. Commemoration of Young Heroes Day may help Marylanders learn more about and recognize the achievements of young heroes, their role in history, and their everyday impact.

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
Crime Victim and Advocate Day	April 3
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.

Source: Department of Legislative Services

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 29 of 2012 passed the Senate, but no action was taken in the House. Its cross file, HB 317, received an unfavorable report from the House Health and Government Operations Committee. SB 224 of 2011 received an unfavorable report from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. Its cross file, HB 282, received an unfavorable report from the House Health and Government Operations Committee. Similar legislation was also considered in the 2009 and 2010 sessions.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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