

HOUSE BILL 539

P1

8lr2206

By: **Delegates Glenn, Anderson, Aumann, Barkley, Branch, Brooks, Carey, Carr, Clippinger, Dumais, Fennell, Folden, Gibson, Haynes, Hettleman, Jones, Kelly, Kramer, R. Lewis, Lierman, Lisanti, Mautz, McCray, McIntosh, Morales, Patterson, Pena–Melynk, Proctor, Queen, Reznik, Szeliga, Turner, Waldstreicher, Wilkins, and Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2018

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Missing Children Day**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim a certain day as Missing
4 Children Day; and generally relating to Missing Children Day.

5 BY renumbering

6 Article – General Provisions

7 Section 7–409 through 7–417, respectively

8 to be Section 7–410 through 7–418, respectively

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2014 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

11 BY adding to

12 Article – General Provisions

13 Section 7–409

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2014 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, Every missing person is someone’s son or daughter, father or mother,
18 brother or sister, husband or wife, and there are families in Maryland dealing with the
19 profound devastation of a loved one that is missing; and

20 WHEREAS, Law enforcement relies on the community and media as partners in its
21 search for missing persons, especially in those cases that remain open; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, All missing persons should be reported to the police as soon as possible
2 with information such as the person's last known location and physical description,
3 including a description of the clothing the person was wearing; and

4 WHEREAS, It is important to keep current photos of loved ones available should
5 they go missing in order to assist those searching for them; and

6 WHEREAS, Families can take steps to prevent child abduction by knowing where
7 their children play, knowing their friends, and talking with them about their safety at
8 home, at school, and on the Internet; and

9 WHEREAS, All missing persons deserve to be searched for, regardless of their age;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Our awareness, support, efforts, and willingness to search for missing
12 persons must continue because it is crucial that we keep missing children awareness a
13 priority in our communities; and

14 WHEREAS, Citizens, law enforcement agencies, family service agencies, and other
15 organizations are encouraged to observe Missing Children Day through appropriate
16 activities; now, therefore,

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
18 That Section(s) 7-409 through 7-417, respectively, of Article – General Provisions of the
19 Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7-410 through 7-418,
20 respectively.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
22 as follows:

23 **Article – General Provisions**

24 **7-409.**

25 **THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM MAY 25 AS MISSING CHILDREN**
26 **DAY.**

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2018.