

SENATE BILL 1199

P1

8lr3615
CF HB 1762

By: **Senators Rosapepe and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 22, 2018

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Pongal Day**

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

5 BY renumbering

6 Article – General Provisions

7 Section 7–402 through 7–417, respectively

8 to be Section 7–403 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 7–402

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2014 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, Pongal, also known as Thai Pongal, is one of the main festivals
18 celebrating the importance of the harvest in the state of Tamil Nadu in southern India; and

19 WHEREAS, Similar to Thanksgiving Day in the United States, Pongal is a festival
20 of thanksgiving to mother nature, the earth, farm animals, and the sun, in the form of Lord
21 Suryan, for the resources necessary for the bountiful yield of crops; and

22 WHEREAS, Pongal Day, a 4–day festival that typically begins on January 14 and
23 ends on January 17, is exemplified by the phrase in the Tamil language “Thai Pirandhaal
24 Vazhi Pirakkum”, meaning “the beginning of the Thai month will open avenues for a better
25 life”; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



