

# HOUSE BILL 967

P1  
HB 484/22 – HGO

3lr2861

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By: **Delegates Bhandari, Allen, Jackson, and Lopez**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 10, 2023

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim October 5 as Dashain Day.

4 BY renumbering

5 Article – General Provisions

6 Section 7–416 through 7–418

7 to be Section 7–417 through 7–419, respectively

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

10 BY adding to

11 Article – General Provisions

12 Section 7–416

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

15 Preamble

16 WHEREAS, Dashain Day is a festival, originating in Nepal, that is celebrated in  
17 parts of South Asia and in South Asian communities around the world, including in  
18 Maryland; and

19 WHEREAS, The festival is rooted in the central cultural beliefs of unity and diversity  
20 and the belief that the world is one family, embodied by the spiritual Sanskrit phrase,

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”; and

2 WHEREAS, The festival is celebrated from Ghatasthapana until Kojagrat Purnima,  
3 lasting up to 15 days; and

4 WHEREAS, During the festival, individuals make resolutions to create harmony in  
5 the fight against evil throughout the year; now, therefore,

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
7 That Section(s) 7–416 through 7–418 of Article – General Provisions of the Annotated Code  
8 of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–417 through 7–419, respectively.

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

11 **Article – General Provisions**

12 **7–416.**

13 **THE GOVERNOR SHALL ANNUALLY PROCLAIM OCTOBER 5 AS DASHAIN DAY,**  
14 **A FESTIVAL ORIGINATING IN NEPAL THAT CELEBRATES AND SYMBOLIZES VICTORY**  
15 **OF GOOD OVER EVIL.**

16 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
17 October 1, 2023.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.