

## Chapter 357

**(House Bill 967)**

AN ACT concerning

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

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

BY renumbering

Article – General Provisions

Section 7–416 through 7–418

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

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – General Provisions

Section 7–416

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

## Preamble

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

WHEREAS, The festival is rooted in the central cultural beliefs of unity and diversity and the belief that the world is one family, embodied by the spiritual Sanskrit phrase, “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”; and

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

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

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

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

**Article – General Provisions**

**7-416.**

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

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

**Approved by the Governor, May 3, 2023.**