

HOUSE BILL 899

P1

5lr1890

By: **Delegates Wolek and Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Months – Muslim American Heritage and**
3 **Jewish American Heritage Months**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim certain months as Muslim
5 American Heritage and Jewish American Heritage months; requiring the
6 proclamations to urge certain organizations to observe the months with certain
7 programs and activities; and generally relating to Muslim American Heritage and
8 Jewish American Heritage months.

9 BY renumbering

10 Article – General Provisions
11 Section 7–501 through 7–503 and 7–504 through 7–507
12 to be Section 7–502 through 7–504 and 7–506 through 7–509, respectively
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

15 BY adding to

16 Article – General Provisions
17 Section 7–501 and 7–505
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

20 Preamble

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.



WHEREAS, There are over 350,000 Muslim Marylanders who currently reside in the State and, for generations, have contributed to enriching the artistic, business, academic, and public service communities thereby significantly increasing the vibrancy of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, There are over 250,000 Jewish Marylanders who currently reside in the State and, for generations, have contributed to enriching the artistic, business, academic, and public service communities thereby significantly increasing the vibrancy of Maryland; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 7-501 through 7-503 and 7-504 through 7-507 of Article – General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7-502 through 7-504 and 7-506 through 7-509, respectively.

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

Article – General Provisions

7-501.

(A) THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF JANUARY AS MUSLIM AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT MUSLIM AMERICANS HAVE MADE TO THE STATE.

(B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL URGE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS TO OBSERVE MUSLIM AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH PROPERLY WITH APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES, AND ACTIVITIES.

7-505.

(A) THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF MAY AS JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT JEWISH AMERICANS HAVE MADE TO THE STATE.

(B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL URGE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS TO OBSERVE JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH PROPERLY WITH APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES, AND ACTIVITIES.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2025.