

Chapter 358

(House Bill 661)

AN ACT concerning

General Provisions – Commemorative Months – Muslim American Heritage and Jewish American Heritage Months

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

BY renumbering

Article – General Provisions

Section 7–501 through 7–503 and 7–504 through 7–507

to be Section 7–502 through 7–504 and 7–506 through 7–509, respectively

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – General Provisions

Section 7–501 and 7–505

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

Preamble

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, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2026.