

JACK BAILEY
Legislative District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Judicial Proceedings Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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March 16, 2021

Senate Bill 946 – Historic St. Mary's City Fort to 400 Commission

Dear Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 946, which would establish the Historic St. Mary's City Fort to 400 Commission. This Commission will be directed to plan and conduct observances commemorating the 400th anniversary of Maryland's founding in 2034.

The 400th anniversary of Maryland's founding will be a tremendous and important event for our entire State. For Historic St. Mary's City, however, it will be more than a great occasion. As the first colony in Maryland, Historic St. Mary's City will be at the center of these celebrations. This is not only a high honor and responsibility, it will also be an economic opportunity for the area. This Commission will be focused not only on the statewide celebration and the observances at St. Mary's City, but also on ensuring that we use this opportunity to the fullest to ensure the continued economic viability of Historic St. Mary's City and the surrounding area.

Beginning this work now will give the Commission ample time to ensure that it can meet all of its goals. It will also be advantageous as the Commission will be able to integrate exciting current developments at Historic St. Mary's City, particularly the discovery of St. Mary's Fort, with the future work of commemorating this 400th anniversary.

I have worked with the President of the Senate, a number of Governor Hogan's cabinet secretaries, and the outstanding staff of Historic St. Mary's City to put together this Commission. I would like to thank them for their contributions and attention to this important issue for St. Mary's County and District 29.

This bill has the support of the St. Mary's County Delegation. I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 946. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bailey'.

Senator Jack Bailey
District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties