

Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs
Dr. Yang Yu, Commission Chair
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House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
The Honorable Melissa Wells, Chair
The Honorable Ken Kerr, Vice Chair

March 11, 2026

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (APAA), we write to express strong support for House Bill 0770, which establish Korean American Day in the State of Maryland.

Maryland is home to a vibrant and growing Korean American community that has contributed tremendously to the cultural, economic, and civic life of our state. Korean Americans have built small businesses, strengthened local economies, served in public institutions, and enriched Maryland's diverse communities through arts, education, and public service. Establishing Korean American Day would formally recognize these contributions and honor the generations of Korean Americans who have helped shape Maryland's story.

This recognition is particularly meaningful for first-generation immigrants who came to the United States seeking opportunity and built new lives for their families through perseverance and hard work. A statewide Korean American Day would celebrate that legacy while also inspiring younger generations to remain engaged in civic life and community leadership.

The Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs is committed to uplifting the voices, histories, and contributions of Maryland's Asian American communities. Recognizing Korean American Day would be an important step in acknowledging the rich heritage and lasting impact of Korean Americans across our state.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the committee to issue a favorable report on HB0770.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of Maryland's diverse communities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Yang Yu, Chair, Governor's APAA Commission

Commissioner, Young Smith, Legislation Committee Chair, Governor's APAA Commission