

SB 308/HB 661: General Provisions - Commemorative Months - Muslim American Heritage and Jewish American Heritage Months: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Education, Energy & the Environment Committee and Government, Labor & Elections Committee:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to MD SB 308/HB 661.

While I appreciate the importance of recognizing diverse cultures and contributions, I believe that designating specific months for these communities could inadvertently lead to division rather than unity. Here are a few reasons for my opposition:

- **Exclusivity:** By singling out specific groups for recognition, this bill risks *excluding other cultural and ethnic communities that also contribute significantly to our society*. A more inclusive approach would celebrate the rich tapestry of all cultures together.
- **Potential for Division:** *Focusing on commemorative months may foster a sense of division among communities rather than promoting understanding and cooperation*. We should aim to bring people together rather than create distinctions.
- **Broader Recognition:** *It is essential to honor the contributions of all communities throughout the year rather than limiting recognition to designated months*. This approach would promote a more comprehensive understanding of our diverse heritage.

I urge you to consider the potential implications and **oppose MD SB 308/HB 661** in favor of a more inclusive approach to celebrating our shared heritage.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of my concerns regarding this bill.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals