

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2017 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 92 (Senator Salling)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**General Provisions - Commemorative Days - Brain Cancer Awareness Day**

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This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim May 1 as Brain Cancer Awareness Day.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Commemorating Brain Cancer Awareness Day does not affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Sixteen official commemorative days, six months, and one week are recognized in State law, as shown in **Exhibit 1**. The Governor also must issue a proclamation each year encouraging citizens and other individuals to observe a moment of silence at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day to unite in remembrance and commemorate the heroic acts and efforts of Marylanders who have served and died in the U.S. Armed Forces.

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**Exhibit 1**  
**Official Commemorative Days and Months in Maryland**

Asian Lunar New Year Day <sup>1</sup>	January/February
Black History Month	February
Irish-American Heritage Month	March
Women's History Month	March
Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day	March 30
Crime Victim and Advocate Commemorative Day	April 3
John Hanson's Birthday <sup>2</sup>	April 13
National Healthcare Decisions Day	April 16
Maryland Centenarians Day <sup>3</sup>	May
Negro Baseball League Day <sup>4</sup>	May
Law Day U.S.A.	May 1
Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Workers Day <sup>5</sup>	June
Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week <sup>6</sup>	June
Juneteenth National Freedom Day	June 19
Maryland Charter Day	June 20
Thurgood Marshall Day	July 2
Hispanic Heritage Month <sup>7</sup>	September/October
German-American Heritage Month	October
South Asian American Heritage Day	October 2
Poetry Day	October 15
American Indian Heritage Month	November
Maryland Emancipation Day	November 1
Annapolis Charter Day	December 17

<sup>1</sup>Day designated as new year on the Asian lunar calendar.

<sup>2</sup>John Hanson served as the first president of the Continental Congress under the Articles of Confederation from 1781 to 1782.

<sup>3</sup>Commemorated on the second Thursday in May.

<sup>4</sup>Commemorated on the second Saturday in May.

<sup>5</sup>Commemorated on the first Sunday in June.

<sup>6</sup>Commemorated during the second week in June.

<sup>7</sup>Commemorated from September 15 to October 15.

Source: Department of Legislative Services

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**Background:** According to the American Society of Clinical Oncology, an estimated 23,800 adults in the United States will be diagnosed with brain and spinal cord cancers in 2016. In addition, more than 4,000 children and teens will be diagnosed with brain or central nervous system tumors. In 2016, approximately 16,100 adults will die from primary cancerous brain and central nervous systems tumors. Even noncancerous brain tumors can be deadly.

There are more than 120 types of brain tumors listed by the National Brain Tumor Society. According to the American Society of Clinical Oncology, symptoms and signs of brain cancer or a brain tumor include headaches, seizures, personality or memory changes, nausea or vomiting, fatigue, and sleep or memory problems.

According to the American Cancer Society, Brain Tumor Awareness month is celebrated in May.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** American Society of Clinical Oncology; American Cancer Society; National Brain Tumor Society; Department of Legislative Services

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