

HOUSE BILL 644

P1

9lr1439

By: **Delegates Ivey, Acevero, Bagnall, B. Barnes, Bartlett, Boyce, Cardin, Charles, Fennell, W. Fisher, Jackson, Jalisi, Kelly, Lehman, Lisanti, Patterson, Proctor, and Stewart**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2019

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on 380 Years of African American History in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on African American History in
4 Maryland; providing for the composition and chair of the Commission; authorizing
5 the chair of the Commission to employ staff in accordance with an appropriation in
6 the State budget; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain
7 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the
8 Commission to study certain matters and produce a certain written report; requiring
9 the Commission to submit its written report to the Governor and the General
10 Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and
11 generally relating to the Commission on African American History in Maryland.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That:

14 (a) There is a Commission on African American History in Maryland.

15 (b) The Commission consists of the following members:

16 (1) 5 members, appointed by the President of the Senate;

17 (2) 5 members, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

18 (3) 5 members, appointed by the Governor; and

19 (4) 16 members appointed by the Executive Committee of the Legislative
20 Black Caucus of Maryland.

21 (c) The chair of the Commission shall be elected by the members of the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Commission.

2 (d) The chair may employ staff in accordance with an appropriation in the State
3 budget.

4 (e) A member of the Commission:

5 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

6 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
7 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

8 (f) The Commission shall:

9 (1) study the history of African Americans in Maryland, beginning when
10 the first slaves were brought to Maryland in 1642; and

11 (2) produce a written report of African American history in Maryland.

12 (g) On or before December 1, 2022, the Commission shall submit its written
13 report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article,
14 the General Assembly.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of September
17 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
18 abrogated and of no further force and effect.