

# HOUSE BILL 967

P1  
HB 484/22 – HGO

3lr2861

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By: **Delegates Bhandari, Allen, Jackson, and Lopez**  
Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Dashain Day**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim October 5 as Dashain Day.

4 BY renumbering

5 Article – General Provisions  
6 Section 7–416 through 7–418  
7 to be Section 7–417 through 7–419, respectively  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

10 BY adding to

11 Article – General Provisions  
12 Section 7–416  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

15 Preamble

16 WHEREAS, Dashain Day is a festival, originating in Nepal, that is celebrated in  
17 parts of South Asia and in South Asian communities around the world, including in  
18 Maryland; and

19 WHEREAS, The festival is rooted in the central cultural beliefs of unity and diversity  
20 and the belief that the world is one family, embodied by the spiritual Sanskrit phrase,  
21 “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”; and

22 WHEREAS, The festival is celebrated from Ghatasthapana until Kojagrat Purnima,  
23 lasting up to 15 days; and

24 WHEREAS, During the festival, individuals make resolutions to create harmony in

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 the fight against evil throughout the year; now, therefore,

2 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
3 That Section(s) 7–416 through 7–418 of Article – General Provisions of the Annotated Code  
4 of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–417 through 7–419, respectively.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
6 as follows:

7 **Article – General Provisions**

8 **7–416.**

9 **THE GOVERNOR SHALL ANNUALLY PROCLAIM OCTOBER 5 AS DASHAIN DAY,**  
10 **A FESTIVAL ORIGINATING IN NEPAL THAT CELEBRATES AND SYMBOLIZES VICTORY**  
11 **OF GOOD OVER EVIL.**

12 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
13 October 1, 2023.