

SENATE BILL 646

P1

4lr2928

By: **Senators Carter and McCray**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Hip Hop Day of Service**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim a certain day as Hip Hop
4 Day of Service; requiring the proclamation to urge citizens and organizations to
5 observe Hip Hop Day of Service properly; and generally relating to Hip Hop Day of
6 Service.

7 BY renumbering

8 Article – General Provisions

9 Section 7–420

10 to be Section 7–421

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 BY adding to

14 Article – General Provisions

15 Section 7–420

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 Preamble

19 WHEREAS, Hip Hop, originating in the South Bronx during the late 1970s, is a
20 cultural movement characterized by its four main elements: rapping, DJing, breaking, and
21 graffiti art; and

22 WHEREAS, Beyond its artistic expression, Hip Hop has always been a platform for
23 marginalized voices to speak out against injustice, discrimination, and inequality; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Hip Hop has a long history of advocating for social justice, including by
2 addressing issues of racial inequality and police brutality and promoting education and
3 community empowerment; and

4 WHEREAS, Hip Hop has been a powerful tool for promoting social change and giving
5 a voice to marginalized communities; and

6 WHEREAS, Hip Hop artists, through their lyricism and creative expression, have
7 consistently used their platform to bring awareness to societal injustices and advocate for
8 positive change, acting as a cultural force, inspiring collective action, and fostering a sense
9 of unity among diverse individuals from various walks of life; and

10 WHEREAS, Hip Hop Day of Service aims to celebrate the positive impact of Hip Hop
11 culture and use it as a catalyst for social change by bringing communities together to
12 promote unity, equality, and justice, aligning with the values and principles of Hip Hop
13 culture; and

14 WHEREAS, Hip Hop Day of Service encourages Hip Hop enthusiasts, artists, and
15 community members to collaborate on service projects that directly benefit their
16 communities, including organizing workshops, hosting educational events, or participating
17 in local clean-up initiatives, with the aim of making a tangible difference in the lives of
18 those in need; now, therefore,

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
20 That Section(s) 7–420 of Article – General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland
21 be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–421.

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

24 **Article – General Provisions**

25 **7–420.**

26 **(A) THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM NOVEMBER 18 AS HIP**
27 **HOP DAY OF SERVICE.**

28 **(B) THE PROCLAMATION SHALL URGE CITIZENS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO**
29 **OBSERVE HIP HOP DAY OF SERVICE WITH APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS, CEREMONIES,**
30 **AND ACTIVITIES.**

31 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2024.