

**MEMORANDUM**

January 13, 2012

TO: County Council

FROM: Robert H. Drummer, Senior Legislative Attorney 

SUBJECT: **Introduction:** Bill 1-12, Personnel – Special Days of Commemoration - Amendments

Bill 1-12, Personnel – Special Days of Commemoration - Amendments, sponsored by Councilmembers Ervin and Floreen, Vice President Navarro, and Councilmembers Riemer and Andrews, is scheduled to be introduced on January 17, 2012. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for February 7 at 1:30 p.m.

The religious, ethnic, and cultural heritage of County residents is very diverse. The County benefits economically, intellectually, culturally, and socially from the richness and strength of its diversity and seeks to promote an inclusive community for all residents. The Council enacted Bill 1-06 on March 28, 2006 to designate certain days of commemoration in order to recognize this diversity. The ability of County employees to provide high quality customer service is enhanced when County employees know that certain days have special religious, ethnic, or cultural meaning that will affect the daily activities of a significant number of County residents.

Bill 1-12 would add Korean American Day as an additional day of commemoration. Korean Americans make up approximately 3% of the County's population. Korean American Day is celebrated on January 13 to commemorate the first group of immigrants to the US from Korea who arrived on Jan. 13, 1903. Since 1903, Korean Americans have made significant contributions to Montgomery County and the United States in many different areas.

In addition to the days of commemoration designated in law by Bill 1-06, Code §33-4B(b)(2) authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer to designate additional days of commemoration that have "special religious, ethnic, or cultural meaning that may affect the daily activities of a significant portion of the County's total population." Although the CAO has already designated Korean American Day as a day of commemoration under this authority, Bill 1-12 would codify this decision.

This packet contains:

Bill 1-12

Legislative Request Report

Circle #

1

4

F:\LAW\BILLS\1201 Days Of Commemoration - Korean American Day\Intro Memo.Doc

Bill No. 1-12  
Concerning: Personnel – Special Days  
of Commemoration - Amendments  
Revised: January 13, 2012 Draft No. 2  
Introduced: January 17, 2012  
Expires: July 17, 2013  
Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

---

By: Councilmembers Ervin and Floreen, Vice President Navarro, and Councilmembers Riemer and  
Andrews

---

**AN ACT** to:

- (1) designate certain additional days of commemoration; and
- (2) generally amend the law relating to County employees and the religious, ethnic, and cultural heritage of County residents.

By amending

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 33, Personnel and Human Resources  
Section 33-4B, Days of Commemoration

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

1           **Sec. 1. Section 33-4B is amended as follows:**

2   **Sec. 33-4B. Days of commemoration.**

3           (a) Legislative findings.

4           (1) The religious, ethnic, and cultural heritage of County residents is  
5           very diverse.

6           (2) The County benefits economically, intellectually, culturally, and  
7           socially from the richness and strength of its diversity and seeks  
8           to promote an inclusive community for all residents.

9           (3) The County's respect for the diversity of its own workforce is  
10           reflected in the County's rules governing leave and alternate  
11           work schedules for religious observance.

12           (4) The ability of County employees to meet the needs of County  
13           residents and provide high quality customer service is enhanced  
14           when County employees know that certain days have special  
15           religious, ethnic, or cultural meaning that will affect the daily  
16           activities of a significant number of County residents.

17           (b) Days of commemoration.

18           (1) Each of the following calendar days is designated a day of  
19           commemoration:

20           (A) Eid Ul-Adha;

21           (B) Asian Lunar New Year;

22           (C) Martin Luther King Day;

23           (D) Ash Wednesday;

24           (E) Purim;

25           (F) Passover;

26           (G) Holy Thursday;

27           (H) Good Friday;

- 28 (I) Easter;
- 29 (J) Orthodox Holy Thursday;
- 30 (K) Orthodox Good Friday;
- 31 (L) Orthodox Easter;
- 32 (M) Ascension Thursday;
- 33 (N) Shavuot;
- 34 (O) Feast of the Assumption;
- 35 (P) Juneteenth;
- 36 (Q) Rosh Hashanah;
- 37 (R) Yom Kippur;
- 38 (S) Succoth;
- 39 (T) Shmini Atzeret;
- 40 (U) Simchas Torah;
- 41 (V) Eid Ul-Fitr;
- 42 (W) Diwali;
- 43 (X) Feast of All Saints;
- 44 (Y) Feast of the Immaculate Conception;
- 45 (Z) Christmas; [and]
- 46 (AA) Kwanza; and
- 47 (BB) Korean American Day.

48 \* \* \*

49 *Approved:*

50

---

Roger Berliner, President, County Council

Date

## LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 1-12

*Personnel – Special Days of Commemoration - Amendments*

**DESCRIPTION:** This bill would add Korean American Day as an additional day of commemoration to the list of calendar days already designated that have special religious, ethnic, or cultural meaning.

**PROBLEM:** Korean Americans make up approximately 3% of the County's population. Korean American Day is celebrated on January 13 to commemorate the first group of immigrants to the US from Korea who arrived on Jan. 13, 1903. Since 1903, Korean Americans have made significant contributions to Montgomery County and the United States in many different areas.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:** The ability of County employees to provide high quality customer service is enhanced when County employees know that certain days have special religious, ethnic, or cultural meaning that will affect the daily activities of a significant number of County residents. The addition of Korean American Day will enhance the awareness of the contributions made by Korean Americans.

**COORDINATION:** Chief Administrative Officer, Human Resources

**FISCAL IMPACT:** To be requested.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** To be requested.

**EVALUATION:** To be requested.

**EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE:** To be researched.

**SOURCE OF INFORMATION:** Robert H. Drummer, Senior Legislative Attorney, 240-777-7895

**APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES:** To be researched.

**PENALTIES:** Not applicable.

F:\LAW\BILLS\1201 Days Of Commemoration - Korean American Day\Legislative Request Report.Doc

4