

HOUSE BILL 1267

F1
HB 1354/24 – W&M

5lr2978

By: **Delegates Howard, Buckel, Hornberger, Miller, and Reilly**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Veterans’ Day – Authorized Public School Holiday**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing public schools to designate Veterans’ Day as a public school
4 holiday; and generally relating to school holidays for public school students.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Education
7 Section 7–103(c)
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article – Education**

13 7–103.

14 (c) (1) The following days are public school holidays:

15 (i) Thanksgiving Day and the day after;

16 (ii) Christmas Eve and from then through January 1;

17 (iii) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;

18 (iv) Presidents’ Day;

19 (v) The Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday
20 after Easter;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(vi) Memorial Day; and

(vii) Primary and general election days.

(2) (I) If the federal and State observances of a holiday are on different days, the board of education of each county shall determine which date shall be the date of observance for the public schools within the county.

(II) EACH COUNTY BOARD MAY DESIGNATE VETERANS' DAY AS A PUBLIC SCHOOL HOLIDAY.

(3) The public schools shall devote a part of at least one day to appropriate exercises for each of the following:

(i) Washington's Birthday;

(ii) Lincoln's Birthday;

(iii) IF THE COUNTY BOARD HAS NOT DESIGNATED VETERANS' DAY AS A PUBLIC SCHOOL HOLIDAY, Veterans' Day;

(iv) Columbus Day;

(v) Arbor Day;

(vi) Black History Month, with an emphasis on Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass and the contributions they made in the fight against slavery; and

(vii) Any other day of national significance.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, the public schools, in the following counties, may remain open and in session on primary and general election days:

(i) Calvert;

(ii) Caroline;

(iii) Dorchester;

(iv) Kent;

(v) Talbot; and

(vi) Worcester.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
2 1, 2025.