

CHAPTER 316

(Senate Bill 854)

AN ACT concerning

Commission to Coordinate the Study, Commemoration, and Impact of Slavery's History and Legacy in Maryland

FOR the purpose of creating the Commission to Coordinate the Study, Commemoration, and Impact of Slavery's History and Legacy in Maryland; providing for the purposes of the Commission; providing for the membership of the Commission and their appointment, terms, and compensation; providing for the staffing of the Commission; requiring the members to be appointed on or before a certain date; providing for the staggering of their terms; and generally relating to the Commission to Coordinate the Study, Commemoration, and Impact of Slavery's History and Legacy in Maryland.

BY adding to

Article – State Government

Section 9-701 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 7. Commission to Coordinate the Study, Commemoration, and Impact of Slavery's History and Legacy in Maryland"

Annotated Code of Maryland
(1999 Replacement Volume)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Millions of Africans were forcibly brought into Maryland from the 17th through the 19th centuries and subjected to unparalleled suffering and death, in order to provide the means for economic and social development for the lives of others in the State; and

WHEREAS, The impact of this unparalleled suffering on those people and on their African American descendants, as well as on the social development of Maryland, generally remains inadequately researched and taught; and

WHEREAS, A mechanism is needed to network museums, cultural organizations, cultural parks and centers, and private collections in order to support the cataloging, preservation, and presentation of cultural resources relative to the history and legacy of slavery in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, An entity is needed to work with grass roots organizations, foundations, and government agencies in publicizing and seeking support for initiatives relating to the history and legacy of slavery, with special attention to the development of initiatives aimed at and benefitting Maryland youth; and

WHEREAS, The State needs to target funding for the identification and maintenance of library and archival resources relevant to the history and legacy of