

The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER
01.01.2012.02

Recognition of the Maryland Indian Status of the Piscataway Indian Nation

- WHEREAS, American Indians, including the historic Piscataway tribes, inhabited what is now Maryland for thousands of years before the founding of our State;
- WHEREAS, Approximately 58,000 people with American Indian heritage are currently living in the State of Maryland;
- WHEREAS, The rich heritage of the American Indian community in Maryland is vast, stretching from the Appalachian Mountains to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean;
- WHEREAS, Many of our rivers, streams, forests, trails, islands, towns, and landmarks bear important cultural ties to the American Indian people;
- WHEREAS, American Indians have, through their cultural heritage, historical influence, and participation in public life, helped to make the State of Maryland the great State that it is today and have contributed to the prosperity and freedom of our country;
- WHEREAS, Recognizing these important contributions by American Indians to our State's history and culture, the General Assembly enacted a law establishing a process under which an American Indian tribe, band, group, or clan could be formally recognized by the State;
- WHEREAS, Pursuant to that law, the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs (Commission), relying in part on the advice of a Recognition Advisory Committee that included expert professionals in the fields of history, genealogy, and anthropology, reviewed the Piscataway Indian Nation's petition for recognition and recommended that the Governor recognize its Maryland Indian status; and

WHEREAS,

I have considered the Commission's determinations and concur with the Commission's recommendation.


NOW, THEREFORE,

I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING SECTION 9.5-309(c) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE 30 DAYS AFTER PRESENTATION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE, EXECUTIVE, AND LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNLESS EARLIER WITHDRAWN:

- A. The State formally recognizes the Piscataway Indian Nation's Maryland Indian status.
- B. The Piscataway Indian Nation and its members shall be accorded all the rights and privileges to which formal State recognition of the Nation's Maryland Indian status entitles them.
- C. This Executive Order should not be interpreted as creating any rights to land, entitlements of any kind, or any special privileges related to gaming.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 9th day of January, 2012.





Martin O'Malley
Governor

ATTEST:



John McDonough
Secretary of State