

SB0351/374838/1

BY: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 351
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike beginning with “that” in line 4 down through “Capitol” in line 15 and substitute “a certain exception to allow the State of Maryland to place a statue of Harriet Tubman in the National Statuary Hall Collection, or for the statue to otherwise be given certain prominence, in addition to certain existing Maryland representatives in the collection; requesting the members of the Maryland congressional delegation to pursue this exception through the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 17, insert:

“WHEREAS, The State of Maryland is proud of the national and State contributions of the two individuals, Charles Carroll of Carrollton and John Hanson, whose statues have formed a part of the National Statuary Hall Collection since 1903; and

WHEREAS, Charles Carroll of Carrollton is revered as a statesman and the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, Charles Carroll was a spokesman against the actions of the colonial Governor of Maryland writing under the famous pseudonym, the “First Citizen”; was commissioned by Benjamin Franklin and Samuel Chase to seek aid from England in the War for Independence; served in the Continental Congress, as the first United States Senator from Maryland, as State Senator, and as Senate President; and helped draft the Maryland Constitution; and

(Over)

WHEREAS, John Hanson was one of the strongest colonial advocates of independence and was active in raising troops and providing arms while serving in the Maryland General Assembly;

WHEREAS, John Hanson served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and was unanimously elected President of the “United States in Congress Assembled” under the Articles of Confederation and, as the presiding officer of Congress, was responsible for initiating a number of programs that established a world position for the new country, including the beginnings of a consular service, a post office department, chartering of a national bank, progress towards taking the first census, and adoption of a uniform system of coinage; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland is a place of rich and diverse history that reaches far beyond the boundaries of the State and is unparalleled by most other states in the country; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the statues honoring two men who risked their lives and fortunes to support and advocate for our nation’s independence, the State of Maryland recognizes the national contributions of a third individual and wishes to contribute a third statue in honor of another patriot and fighter for freedom in our country, Harriet Tubman; and

WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman escaped slavery in the State of Maryland and went on to become one of the most prominent “conductors” of the Underground Railroad guiding slaves to freedom; and

WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman was a premier national leader in the movement to fight against slavery and for women's suffrage, and served the Union Army and our country during the Civil War, first as a cook and nurse, and later as an armed scout and spy; and

WHEREAS, It would benefit the nation and visitors to the nation’s Capitol to be made aware of Harriet Tubman’s contributions if an exception were made and an

additional statue for Maryland were permitted in the National Statuary Hall Collection; and

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has permitted other states to add statues to the National Statuary Hall Collection; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) (1) The General Assembly of Maryland respectfully requests that an exception be made to allow the State of Maryland to place a third statue in the National Statuary Hall Collection, in addition to the existing Maryland representatives of John Hanson and Charles Carroll, or for the third statue to otherwise be given great prominence.

(2) The third statue would be of Harriet Tubman, an African American woman and most notable national hero for her contributions to the history of our country.

(b) The General Assembly respectfully requests the members of the Maryland congressional delegation to pursue, through the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress, the exception requested under this Act to allow a third statue in Statuary Hall that would recognize the significance of Harriet Tubman in the history of Maryland and the nation.”.

On pages 1 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 18 on page 1 through line 5 on page 4, inclusive.