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NEWS

Public Invited to View Star-Spangled Banner Bicentennial Plan

Baltimore - The Maryland Office of Tourism has posted the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission draft action plan, "Star-Spangled 200: A National Bicentennial in Maryland" at <http://visitmaryland.org/Pages/1812.aspx> for public comment.

This plan addresses the importance of the Bicentennial, ideas for the commemoration and how Marylanders can become involved. The Office of Tourism will be accepting public comment on the draft at least until Jan. 5, 2009, in advance of the first Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission meeting to be convened in 2009.

Office of Tourism staff, on behalf of the Commission, assembled the draft

after a year of gathering information from dozens of stakeholder meetings and online surveys. For more information or to provide feedback, contact Bill Pencek at 410-767-6289 or Kate Marks at 410-767-6974.

The Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission was created on September 8, 2007 by an Executive Order issued by Governor Martin O'Malley. The goal of the Commission is to plan a multi-year cultural tourism and educational initiative to commemorate Maryland's contributions to the heritage of the nation, including the Star-Spangled Banner and our National Anthem.