

HB0727/156886/1

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 727
(First Reading File Bill)

After line 11, insert:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, The Calvert Marine Museum is located in Southern Maryland near the Calvert Cliffs, one of the richest fossil deposits along the Atlantic coastal plain; and

WHEREAS, Calvert Cliffs is home to fossils as old as 18,000,000 years and represents one of the most important Miocene Epoch sites in the world; and

WHEREAS, Calvert Marine Museum paleontologists collect, identify, preserve, and interpret fossils from Calvert Cliffs; and

WHEREAS, Calvert Marine Museum has been building a fossil collection for almost 40 years and currently has 100,000 fossils, 600 skeletons, 200 casts, and 5,000 modern shells in its collection; and

WHEREAS, Given the Calvert Marine Museum’s contributions to the study of paleontology in Maryland, the nation, and around the world, the Calvert Marine Museum is a valuable and unique State institution necessary for the collection and research of Maryland’s prehistoric treasures; and

WHEREAS, The Calvert Marine Museum plans to construct a new paleontology research and collections center, within the next 5 years, with the capacity to prepare and house fossils from across the State, host researchers from around the world, and create a publicly accessible statewide directory of fossils; now, therefore,”.