

HB0727/223826/1

BY: Delegate Lisanti

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 727, AS AMENDED
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1 of the bill, in line 2, after the second “State” insert “Waterfowl and State”; in line 3, before “Calvert” insert “Canvasback Duck and”; in line 4, after “of” insert “designating the canvasback duck as the State waterfowl;”; in line 5, after “to” insert “a State waterfowl and”; and in line 9, after “Section” insert “7-311 and”.

In the Health and Government Operations Committee Amendment (HB0727/156886/1), after line 2, insert:

“WHEREAS, The canvasback duck is a species of diving duck, the largest in North America, known for its distinctive wedge-shaped head and long graceful neck; and

WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay’s Susquehanna Flats was once the winter home of about half of North America’s canvasback population, totaling more than 250,000 at its peak; and

WHEREAS, In the 19th century, canvasbacks in the Susquehanna Flats played a historic role in the State’s watermen’s traditions and were a frequent target of market game hunters, given their popularity in the State as a food source; and

WHEREAS, Today, canvasbacks on the Chesapeake Bay have declined to about 50,000, largely due to the decline in water quality and submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the Bay, where canvasbacks find wild celery, their principal food supply; and

WHEREAS, The State’s commitment to the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort is critical to the return of SAV, an absolute prerequisite for growing and sustaining the

(Over)

canvasback population; and

WHEREAS, Given the canvasback’s historical significance to the Chesapeake Bay region in the State and its majestic beauty and characteristics, the canvasback serves as a symbol of the resilience and improving health of the Chesapeake Bay; and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1 of the bill, after line 14, insert:

“7-311.

THE CANVASBACK DUCK (AYTHYA VALISINERIA) IS THE STATE WATERFOWL.”.