

# SENATE BILL 135

P1

(PRE-FILED)

6lr1075  
CF HB 97

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By: Senator Bailey

Requested: October 2, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 State Designations – State Shark – Megalodon

3 FOR the purpose of designating the megalodon as the State shark; and generally relating  
4 to the State shark.

5 BY renumbering

6 Article – General Provisions

7 Section 7–310

8 to be Section 7–311

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

11 BY adding to

12 Article – General Provisions

13 Section 7–310

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

## 16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, The megalodon was the largest shark that ever lived and one of the  
18 largest predators; and

19 WHEREAS, Fossilized teeth are found in Calvert County along Calvert Cliffs and  
20 also found in Anne Arundel, Caroline, Charles, Dorchester, Prince George's, and St. Mary's  
21 counties; and

22 WHEREAS, The megalodon continues to be a source of popular and scientific  
23 fascination derived from their fossilized large, serrated teeth; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1            WHEREAS, This macro predator provides evidence for the rich fossil history  
2    preserved in Maryland; and

3 WHEREAS, There are extant sharks in both the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland's  
4 coastal waters, and the megalodon, although extinct, lived in this area for millions of years  
5 and is a reminder of the important role modern and prehistoric sharks have played in  
6 shaping past and present ecosystems; and

7           WHEREAS, As the Maryland State Paleontology Collection and Research Center,  
8 the Calvert Marine Museum houses over 1,700 fossilized megalodon teeth, including the  
9 only associated dentition (over 50 teeth from one individual) of the shark ever found within  
10 the State; now, therefore,

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
12 That Section(s) 7-310 of Article – General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 be renumbered to be Section(s) 7-311.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
15 as follows:

## Article – General Provisions

17 7-310.

## THE MEGALODON (*OTODUS MEGALODON*) IS THE STATE SHARK.

19 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 October 1, 2026.