
By: **Delegate Hubbard**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2000

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Emblems - Great Seal and State Flag - Clarifying Descriptions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain descriptions of the Great Seal of the State and the

4 State flag to clarify their appropriate appearance.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article - State Government

7 Section 13-102(b) and 13-202

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (1999 Replacement Volume)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - State Government**

13 13-102.

14 (b) On the reverse of the Great Seal of Maryland is Lord Baltimore's
15 hereditary coat of arms. The 1st and 4th quarters represent the arms of the Calvert
16 family described in heraldic language as a paly of 6 pieces, or (gold) and sable (black)
17 a bend counterchanged. The 1st and 4th quarters are the left-hand top quarter and
18 the right-hand bottom quarter. The 2nd and 3rd quarters show the arms of the
19 Crossland family, which Cecil inherited from his grandmother, Alicia, wife of Leonard
20 Calvert, the father of George, 1st Lord Baltimore. This coat of arms is in quarters
21 also, argent [(silver)] (WHITE) and gules (red) a GREEK cross bottony (boutonne, with
22 a [button] TREFOIL or a three-leaf clover at the end of each radius of the cross)
23 counterchanged. Above the shield is placed an Earl's coronet (indicating that though
24 only a baron in England, Calvert was an earl or count palatine in Maryland). Above
25 that, a helmet set full faced and over that the Calvert crest, (2 pennons, the dexter or
26 the right one or (gold), the other sable (black) staffs gules (red) issuing from the
27 [ducal] coronet). The supporters of the shield are a plowman and a fisherman with
28 their hands on the shield, designated respectively by a spade held in the right hand of
29 the plowman and a fish held in the left hand of the fisherman (the fish is heraldic and
30 cannot, therefore, be identified as to any species). The plowman wears a

1 high-crowned, broad-brimmed beaver hat; the fisherman wears a knitted cap
2 (somewhat resembling a stocking cap). The motto in Italian on a ribbon at the feet of
3 the plowman and fisherman is the motto of the Calvert family "Fatti maschii parole
4 femine" loosely translated as "Manly deeds, womanly words". Behind and
5 surrounding both shield and supporters is an ermine-lined mantle and on the circle
6 around this part of the seal are the words "Scuto bonae voluntatis tuae coronasti nos"
7 (5th Psalm, 12th verse: "With favor wilt thou compass us as with a shield") and the
8 date 1632. The date refers to the year the charter was granted.

9 13-202.

10 (a) The State flag is quartered.

11 (b) The 1st and 4th quarters are paly of 6 pieces, or and sable, a bend dexter
12 counterchanged. Thus, the 1st and 4th quarters consist of 6 vertical bars alternately
13 gold and black with a diagonal band FROM UPPER LEFT TO LOWER RIGHT on which
14 the colors are reversed.

15 (c) The 2nd and 3rd[, quarterly,] QUARTERS are, QUARTERLY, argent and
16 gules, a cross bottony [countersigned] COUNTERCHANGED. Thus, the 2nd and 3rd
17 quarters are a quartered field of [red and white] WHITE AND RED, charged with a
18 Greek cross, its arms terminating in trefoils, with the coloring [transported]
19 REVERSED, red being on the white ground and white on the red, and all being as
20 represented upon the escutcheon of the State seal.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2000.