

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 733 (Delegate Zirkin, *et al.*)
Health and Government Operations

State Birds - Oriole and Raven

This bill names the raven (*Corvus corax*) as a State bird, in addition to the Baltimore Oriole.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not materially affect State activities or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Title 13 of the State Government Article lists various emblems and designations adopted by the State. In addition to the State flag and seal, the State has designated an official State cat, crustacean, bird, boat, dinosaur, dog, drink, fish, flower, folk dance, fossil shell, insect, reptile, song, sport, team sport, summer theater, theater, and tree. The Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) is the State bird.

Background: The raven, the largest of all entirely black birds, is the mascot for the Baltimore Ravens National Football League team. The birds are skilled fliers and known for being crafty, quick to learn, and shy. The raven's geographic range includes North and Central America and parts of Europe and Asia.

No state currently has two state birds.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: An identical bill HB 1372, was introduced in the 2001 session, but received an unfavorable report from the House Commerce and Government Matters Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 2005
mp/hlb

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