

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2008 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 1311 (Delegate Bronrott, *et al.*)  
Health and Government Operations Education, Health, and Environmental  
Affairs

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**State Designations - Walking as the State Exercise**

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This bill designates walking as the State exercise.

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**Fiscal Summary**

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Maryland State Flag was adopted as the State flag in 1904 followed by the adoption of the Black-Eyed Susan as the State flower in 1918. Since then, the State has adopted 20 additional official symbols as shown in **Exhibit 1**. The Governor is also authorized to designate a citizen as the State's Poet Laureate.

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**Exhibit 1**  
**State Symbols of Maryland**

<b><u>Type</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Statutory Authority</u></b>
Bird	Baltimore Oriole	Ch. 54 of 1947
Boat	Skipjack	Ch. 788 of 1985
Cat	Calico Cat	Ch. 194 of 2001
Crustacean	Blue Crab	Ch. 724 of 1989
Dinosaur	<i>Astrodon johnstoni</i>	Ch. 404 of 1998
Dog	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	Ch. 156 of 1964
Drink	Milk	Ch. 220 of 1998
Fish	Rockfish (Striped Bass)	Ch. 513 of 1965
Flower	Black-Eyed Susan	Ch. 458 of 1918
Folk Dance	Square Dance	Ch. 707 of 1994
Fossil Shell	<i>Ecphora gardnerae gardnerae</i>	Ch. 688 of 1994
Gem	Patuxent River Stone	Ch. 272 of 2004
Horse	Thoroughbred Horse	Ch. 359 of 2003
Insect	Baltimore Checkerspot Butterfly	Ch. 253 of 1973
Reptile	Diamondback Terrapin	Ch. 476 of 1994
Song	“Maryland, My Maryland”	Ch. 451 of 1939
Sport	Jousting	Ch. 134 of 1962
Team Sport	Lacrosse	Ch. 272 of 2004
Theater	Center Stage	Ch. 1003 of 1978
Theater – Summer	Olney Theatre	Ch. 1003 of 1978
Tree	White Oak	Ch. 731 of 1941

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Source: Maryland State Archives

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** This bill is identical to HB 98 of 2003 and HB 439 of 2002. HB 98 passed the General Assembly, but was vetoed by the Governor. HB 439 received an unfavorable report from the House Commerce and Government Matters Committee.

**Cross File:** SB 437 (Senator Jones, *et al.*) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 14, 2008  
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