

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1178 (Delegate Kullen, *et al.*)
Health and Government Operations

State Government - State Song For Children - "The Land Mary-land"

This bill designates the song "The Land Mary-land" by Tom Wisner as the State song for children.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

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 many additional official symbols as shown in **Exhibit 1**. The Governor is also authorized to designate a citizen as the State's Poet Laureate.

Background: Tom Wisner, a native of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, is a singer, songwriter, and educator who lives on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He received the World Folk Music Association's John Denver Award in 2002.

Exhibit 1
State Symbols of Maryland

| <u>Type</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Statutory Authority</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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 |
| Dessert | Smith Island Cake | Ch. 164/165 of 2008 |
| Dinosaur | Astrodon johnstoni | Ch. 404 of 1998 |
| Dog | Chesapeake Bay Retriever | Ch. 156 of 1964 |
| Drink | Milk | Ch. 220 of 1998 |
| Exercise | Walking | Ch. 400/401 of 2008 |
| 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 |

Source: Maryland State Archives

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 980 (Senator Dyson) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2009
mlm/hlb

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