

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 642 (Delegate Olszewski, *et al.*)  
Health and Government Operations

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State Emblems - State Lighthouse - Millers Island Lighthouse

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This bill designates Millers Island Lighthouse as the State lighthouse.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Designating a State lighthouse does not affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The Maryland State Flag was adopted in 1904, followed by the adoption of the Black-Eyed Susan as the State flower in 1918. Since then, the State has adopted 22 additional official symbols as shown in **Exhibit 1**. The Governor is also authorized to designate a citizen as the State's Poet Laureate.

**Background:** The Miller Island Lighthouse (also known as the Craighill Channel Lower Range Light Rear Lighthouse) is the tallest lighthouse in the State and is located in the Chesapeake Bay and the entrance to the Patapsco River. The lighthouse is one of the four Craighill range lights which mark the Brewerton Channel, a major segment of the approach to the commercial ports of Baltimore. The Miller Island Lighthouse was commissioned in 1873 and completed in 1875. It was constructed in a unique style for the Chesapeake Bay and is painted with a white base, a red top, and a gray lantern. The lighthouse was added to the National Register of Historic Places in December 2002.

The U.S. Lighthouse Society, Chesapeake Chapter identifies 25 lighthouses in the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay as being original, existing, or replica lighthouses and an additional 15 lighthouses that have been dismantled, destroyed, or reconstructed as a modern design.

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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
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

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** United States Lighthouse Society, U.S. Coast Guard, Maryland Historical Trust, Department of Legislative Services

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ncs/hlb

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