

# HOUSE BILL 960

P1

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CF SB 1002

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By: **Delegate Frick**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2017

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Designations – State Mineral – Chromite**

3 FOR the purpose of designating chromite as the State mineral; and generally relating to a  
4 State mineral.

5 BY adding to

6 Article – General Provisions

7 Section 7–325

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2014 Volume and 2016 Supplement)

10 Preamble

11 WHEREAS, Chromite was first discovered in the United States by Isaac Tyson, Jr.,  
12 in Bare Hills, Baltimore County in 1808; and

13 WHEREAS, This ore of the important metal chromium appeared as heavy black sand  
14 in the streams and gullies of Maryland’s serpentine barrens, or as heavy dark rocks found  
15 on the surface; and

16 WHEREAS, Later discoveries of the mineral were found in the serpentine barrens  
17 of Harford County, Cecil County, Soldier’s Delight of Baltimore County, and southeastern  
18 Pennsylvania; and

19 WHEREAS, Until the 1850s, this region provided most of the world’s chromite, as  
20 Isaac Tyson, Jr., exported the valuable mineral via Baltimore Clipper ships from Fells Point  
21 in Baltimore; and

22 WHEREAS, Isaac Tyson, Jr., established the Baltimore Chrome Works, the nation’s  
23 first chromium chemicals plant in the United States, dominated the chrome industry,

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 started the renowned Tyson Mining Company, and was inducted into the National Mining  
2 Hall of Fame and Museum in 1996; and

3 WHEREAS, Chromite is found in Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Harford, Howard, and  
4 Montgomery counties and its historical relevance is reflected in the naming of local interest  
5 points, such as Chrome Hill in Harford County, Chromine Road in Baltimore County, and  
6 Chrome Mine Road in Montgomery County; and

7 WHEREAS, Chromite reflects the nature of Maryland's rich mining history and vast  
8 mineral resources; now, therefore,

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
10 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

11 **Article – General Provisions**

12 **7-325.**

13 **CHROMITE IS THE STATE MINERAL.**

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 2017.