

Department of Legislative Services
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 450

(Senators Waugh and Miller)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

State Designations – State Paleontology Collection and Research Center –
Calvert Marine Museum

This bill designates the Calvert Marine Museum as the State Paleontology Collection and Research Center.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Designating the museum as the State paleontology collection and research center does not directly affect State 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.

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	Chs. 164/165 of 2008
Dinosaur	<i>Astrodon johnstoni</i>	Chs. 403/404 of 1998
Dog	Chesapeake Bay Retriever	Ch. 156 of 1964
Drink	Milk	Ch. 220 of 1998
Exercise	Walking	Chs. 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

Background: The Calvert Marine Museum has as its mission the collection, preservation, research, and interpretation of the cultural and natural history of Southern Maryland. According to its *2017 Annual Report*, the museum had over 84,000 visitors and provided educational programming for 15,000 children in fiscal 2017.

As noted in the preamble, the Calvert Cliffs near the museum is home to fossils as old as 18 million years. The museum has been acquiring a fossil collection for almost 40 years and currently has 100,000 fossils, 600 skeletons, 200 casts, and 5,000 modern shells. Within the next five years, it plans to construct a new paleontology research and collections center.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: Although not designated as a cross file, HB 727 (Calvert County Delegation – Health and Government Operations) also designates the Calvert Marine Museum as the State Paleontology Collection and Research Center.

Information Source(s): Calvert County; Calvert Marine Museum; Department of Legislative Services

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