SENATE BILL 343

By: Senator Hershey
Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2022
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

State Designations – State Spirit – Maryland Rye

FOR the purpose of designating Maryland Rye or Maryland Rye Whiskey as the State spirit; and generally relating to the State spirit.

BY renumbering
Article – General Provisions
Section 7–318
to be Section 7–319
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – General Provisions
Section 7–318
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Maryland has had a long history and tradition of distilling various forms of whiskey since before the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, Maryland Rye Whiskey is a distinct and notable spirit unique from other distilled whiskey; and

WHEREAS, Maryland Rye Whiskey demanded national respect as one of the best whiskeys in the United States in the 19th and early 20th centuries; and

WHEREAS, Rye is a plentiful, locally grown cover crop affording an opportunity to highlight local agriculture and support local spirits production; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
WHEREAS, The Maryland distillery industry, once a robust and significant producer of spirits, is again growing and contributing to the economy and prominence of the State; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 7–318 of Article – General Provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–319.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – General Provisions

7–318.

MARYLAND RYE OR MARYLAND RYE WHISKEY IS THE STATE SPIRIT.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.