

SENATE BILL 764

P1
SB 1002/17 – EHE

5lr1939
CF HB 411

By: **Senators Zucker, Feldman, and Love**
Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2025
Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: February 27, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Designations – State Mineral – Chromite**
3 **(State Mineral Act)**

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

6 BY adding to
7 Article – General Provisions
8 Section 7–326
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

11 Preamble

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

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

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 WHEREAS, Until the 1850s, this region provided most of the world's chromite, as
 2 Isaac Tyson, Jr., exported the valuable mineral via Baltimore Clipper ships from Fells Point
 3 in Baltimore; and

4 WHEREAS, Isaac Tyson, Jr., established the Baltimore Chrome Works, the nation's
 5 first chromium chemicals plant in the United States, dominated the chrome industry,
 6 started the renowned Tyson Mining Company, and was inducted into the National Mining
 7 Hall of Fame and Museum in 1996; and

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

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

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

16 **Article – General Provisions**

17 **7–326.**

18 **CHROMITE IS THE STATE MINERAL.**

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 20 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.