

Chapter 486

(House Bill 411)

AN ACT concerning

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

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

BY adding to

Article – General Provisions

Section 7–326

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

Preamble

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Article – General Provisions

7–326.

CHROMITE IS THE STATE MINERAL.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2025.