

10101677D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1082

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 13, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 1-510 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the designation of a state soil.

Patron—Crockett-Stark (By Request)

Referred to Committee on Rules

Whereas, soil plays a vital role in crop production, protection of the environment, and augmentation of our other natural resources; and

Whereas, soil is important to the residents of the Commonwealth, because without soil, life as we know it could not exist; and

Whereas, Virginia is blessed with rivers whose watersheds cover several physiographic regions and a history that goes back to the beginnings of our state, and beyond; and

Whereas, Pamunkey soil, named after the Pamunkey River, was originally formed as sediments that were deposited on the floodplains and delta of the James River, which crosses the entire state; and

Whereas, used first by the River Indian Nations to grow their crops, and eventually by the settlers at Jamestown, Pamunkey soil created an environment that was conducive to plant growth; and

Whereas, this soil's high natural fertility makes it one of Virginia's prime agricultural soils; and

Whereas, the richness of the soil in Virginia was a significant factor in the successful founding of the Virginia colony, which led to the formation of the United States of America; and

Whereas, designating Pamunkey soil as the state soil will encourage public recognition of the significance of soil in our lives and will promote the wise use and conservation of valuable soil resources; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 1-510 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 1-510. Official emblems and designations.

The following are hereby designated official emblems and designations of the Commonwealth:

Artisan Center - "Virginia Artisans Center," located in the City of Waynesboro.

Bat - Virginia Big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus*).

Beverage - Milk.

Blue Ridge Folklore State Center - Blue Ridge Institute located in the village of Ferrum.

Boat - "Chesapeake Bay Deadrise."

Cabin Capital of Virginia - Page County.

Coal Miners' Memorial - The Richlands Coal Miners' Memorial located in Tazewell County.

Covered Bridge Capital of the Commonwealth - Patrick County.

Covered Bridge Festival - Virginia Covered Bridge Festival held in Patrick County.

Dog - American Foxhound.

Emergency medical services museum - "To The Rescue," located in the City of Roanoke.

Fish - Brook Trout.

Fleet - Replicas of the three ships, Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery, which comprised the Commonwealth's founding fleet that brought the first permanent English settlers to Jamestown in 1607, and which are exhibited at the Jamestown Settlement in Williamsburg.

Flower - American Dogwood (*Cornus florida*).

Folk dance - Square dancing, the American folk dance that traces its ancestry to the English Country Dance and the French Ballroom Dance, and is called, cued, or prompted to the dancers, and includes squares, rounds, clogging, contra, line, the Virginia Reel, and heritage dances.

Fossil - Chesapeake jeffersonius.

Gold mining interpretive center - Monroe Park, located in the County of Fauquier.

Insect - Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly (*Papilio glaucus* Linne).

Motor sports museum - "Wood Brothers Racing Museum and Virginia Motor Sports Hall of Fame," located in Patrick County.

Outdoor drama - "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine Outdoor Drama," adapted for the stage by Clara Lou Kelly and performed in the Town of Big Stone Gap.

Outdoor drama, historical - "The Long Way Home" based on the life of Mary Draper Ingles, adapted for the stage by Earl Hobson Smith, and performed in the City of Radford.

Shell - Oyster shell (*Crassostrea virginica*).

INTRODUCED

HB1082

- 59** *Soil - Pamunkey soil.*
- 60** Song emeritus - "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," by James A. Bland, as set out in the House Joint
- 61** Resolution 10, adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia at the Session of 1940.
- 62** Sports hall of fame - "Virginia Sports Hall of Fame," located in the City of Portsmouth.
- 63** War memorial museum - "Virginia War Museum," (formerly known as the War Memorial Museum
- 64** of Virginia), located in the City of Newport News.