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**HOUSE BILL NO. 833**

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 11, 2012

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 1-510 of the Code of Virginia, relating to official emblems and designations; state song.*

Patrons—Carr (By Request) and Ward

Referred to Committee on Rules

Whereas, the Commonwealth has no official song because "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny," declared the official song of the Commonwealth in 1940, was declared the official song emeritus of the Commonwealth in 1997; and

Whereas, the official song should reference the rich tradition of the Commonwealth and invoke images of the natural and scenic beauty its citizens celebrate; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth requires an official song that can be sung on all occasions with pride and affection; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That "At Home in Virginia," by Evi Burgin, be designated as the official song of the Commonwealth, the words of which are as follows:

At Home in Virginia

From beyond the Blue Ridge mountains to the seashore or the Bay

Sunset in Virginia can take your breath away

A cardinal that's singing by the lacy dogwood tree

Boast of Virginia's natural beauty

Honeysuckle vine by fields of corn

Loving and learning, families are formed

Wisdom from a mentor teaches right from wrong

We're traveling in Virginia now; won't you come along?

Chorus:

We are the people of Virginia

Strong and brave, bold and free

Feel right at home in Virginia

Land of hope and liberty!

"Mother of Presidents," "Mother of States"

First surviving English settlement, opened up the gates

For the first lawmakers, in old Jamestown

The shaping of our nation, history handed down.

We honor those who died, hope with those who live

Each one in our Commonwealth has something to give

Giving love is from above, as we stake our claim

"Virginia is for Lovers," is more than just a name

Chorus

**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 (Freshwater) - Brook Trout.

Fish (Saltwater) - Striped Bass.

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- 59 Fleet - Replicas of the three ships, Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery, which comprised the  
60 Commonwealth's founding fleet that brought the first permanent English settlers to Jamestown in 1607,  
61 and which are exhibited at the Jamestown Settlement in Williamsburg.
- 62 Flower - American Dogwood ( *Cornus florida*).
- 63 Folk dance - Square dancing, the American folk dance that traces its ancestry to the English Country  
64 Dance and the French Ballroom Dance, and is called, cued, or prompted to the dancers, and includes  
65 squares, rounds, clogging, contra, line, the Virginia Reel, and heritage dances.
- 66 Fossil - *Chesapecten jeffersonius*.
- 67 Gold mining interpretive center - Monroe Park, located in the County of Fauquier.
- 68 Insect - Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly ( *Papilio glaucus* Linne).
- 69 Motor sports museum - "Wood Brothers Racing Museum and Virginia Motor Sports Hall of Fame,"  
70 located in Patrick County.
- 71 Outdoor drama - "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine Outdoor Drama," adapted for the stage by Clara  
72 Lou Kelly and performed in the Town of Big Stone Gap.
- 73 Outdoor drama, historical - "The Long Way Home" based on the life of Mary Draper Ingles, adapted  
74 for the stage by Earl Hobson Smith, and performed in the City of Radford.
- 75 Shell - Oyster shell ( *Crassostrea virginica*).
- 76 Song - "*At Home in Virginia*" by Evi Burgin.
- 77 Song emeritus - "Carry Me Back to Old ~~Virginia~~ *Virginny*," by James A. Bland, as set out in the  
78 House Joint Resolution 10, adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia at the Session of 1940.
- 79 Sports hall of fame - "Virginia Sports Hall of Fame," located in the City of Portsmouth.
- 80 War memorial museum - "Virginia War Museum," (formerly known as the War Memorial Museum  
81 of Virginia), located in the City of Newport News.