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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1837**

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 13, 2015

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 1-510 of the Code of Virginia, relating to official emblems of the Commonwealth; Virginia National Guard anthem.*

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 Patron—Robinson
 

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 Referred to Committee on Rules
 

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Whereas, the Virginia National Guard traces the heritage and traditions of selfless service to the founding of the Jamestown Settlement on May 14, 1607; and

Whereas, in addition to its military role, the Virginia National Guard responds to natural disasters, supporting state and local authorities and assisting citizens of the Commonwealth as well as citizens in neighboring states in their time of need; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth lacks an official anthem that honors the service of the members of the Virginia National Guard; and

Whereas, "The National Guard March" by Howard E. Miller meets this lyrical requirement, the words of which are as follows:

"We sing about the Army,  
 We sing about the Navy,  
 We sing about the Air Force, too.  
 We sing about the Coast Guard,  
 We sing about Marine Corps,  
 And now we're going to sing about you.

Your National Guard is ready,  
 On the land or in the air.  
 Your National Guard is ready,  
 We will serve you anywhere.  
 We fight for the right, not the wrong,  
 And if disaster comes along,  
 Your National Guard is ready,  
 To help keep America Strong!"

Whereas, "The National Guard March" is worthy of designation by the Commonwealth as the official anthem of the Virginia National Guard; 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 (*Corynorhinos 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.

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

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59 squares, rounds, clogging, contra, line, the Virginia Reel, and heritage dances.  
60 Fossil - *Chesapecten jeffersonius* .  
61 Gold mining interpretive center - Monroe Park, located in the County of Fauquier.  
62 Insect - Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly (*Papilio glaucus* Linne).  
63 Maple Festival - The Highland County Maple Festival.  
64 Motor sports museum - "Wood Brothers Racing Museum and Virginia Motor Sports Hall of Fame,"  
65 located in Patrick County.  
66 Outdoor drama - "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine Outdoor Drama," adapted for the stage by Clara  
67 Lou Kelly and performed in the Town of Big Stone Gap.  
68 Outdoor drama, historical - "The Long Way Home" based on the life of Mary Draper Ingles, adapted  
69 for the stage by Earl Hobson Smith, and performed in the City of Radford.  
70 Shakespeare festival - The Virginia Shakespeare Festival held in the City of Williamsburg.  
71 Shell - Oyster shell (*Crassostrea virginica*).  
72 Song emeritus - "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," by James A. Bland, as set out in the House Joint  
73 Resolution 10, adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia at the Session of 1940.  
74 Sports hall of fame - "Virginia Sports Hall of Fame," located in the City of Portsmouth.  
75 *Virginia National Guard anthem* - "*The National Guard March*" by Howard E. Miller.  
76 War memorial museum - "Virginia War Museum," (formerly known as the War Memorial Museum  
77 of Virginia), located in the City of Newport News.