

HOUSE BILL 411

P1
HB 960/17 – HGO

5lr1941
CF 5lr1939

By: **Delegate Korman**

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

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

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

23 WHEREAS, Isaac Tyson, Jr., established the Baltimore Chrome Works, the nation’s
24 first chromium chemicals plant in the United States, dominated the chrome industry,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 started the renowned Tyson Mining Company, and was inducted into the National Mining
2 Hall of Fame and Museum in 1996; and

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

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

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

11 **Article – General Provisions**

12 **7–326.**

13 **CHROMITE IS THE STATE MINERAL.**

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