

SENATE BILL 450

P1

8lr1665

By: **Senators Waugh and Miller**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Designations – State Paleontology Collection and Research Center –**
3 **Calvert Marine Museum**

4 FOR the purpose of designating the Calvert Marine Museum as the State paleontology
5 collection and research center; and generally relating to a State paleontology
6 collection and research center.

7 BY adding to
8 Article – General Provisions
9 Section 7–325
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2014 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

Preamble

13 WHEREAS, The Calvert Marine Museum is located in Southern Maryland near the
14 Calvert Cliffs, one of the richest fossil deposits along the Atlantic coastal plane; and

15 WHEREAS, Calvert Cliffs is home to fossils as old as 18,000,000 years and
16 represents one of the most important Miocene Epoch sites in the world; and

17 WHEREAS, Calvert Marine Museum paleontologists collect, identify, preserve, and
18 interpret fossils from Calvert Cliffs; and

19 WHEREAS, Calvert Marine Museum has been building a fossil collection for almost
20 40 years and currently has 100,000 fossils, 600 skeletons, 200 casts, and 5,000 modern
21 shells in its collection; and

22 WHEREAS, Given the Calvert Marine Museum’s contributions to the study of
23 paleontology in Maryland, the nation, and around the world, the Calvert Marine Museum
24 is a valuable and unique State institution necessary for the collection and research of

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Maryland's prehistoric treasures; and

2 WHEREAS, The Calvert Marine Museum plans to construct a new paleontology
3 research and collections center, within the next 5 years, with the capacity to prepare and
4 house fossils from across the State, host researchers from around the world, and create a
5 publically accessible statewide directory of fossils; now, therefore,

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

8 **Article – General Provisions**

9 **7-325.**

10 **THE CALVERT MARINE MUSEUM IS THE STATE PALEONTOLOGY COLLECTION**
11 **AND RESEARCH CENTER.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2018.