

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 24-121—HB 5304

Government Administration and Elections Committee

**AN ACT DESIGNATING THE STATE DOG AND STATE CANDY AND
CREATING A WORKING GROUP CONCERNING REDESIGNATING
THE STATE INSECT**

SUMMARY: This act designates the Siberian Husky as the state dog and the lollipop as the state candy.

It also creates a working group to study redesignating the state insect, which is currently the praying mantis. The working group must study the reasons for keeping or redesignating the current state insect and consider potential alternatives that are native to the state, such as the spring azure butterfly and autumn meadowhawk dragonfly. The group must report its findings and recommendations to the Government Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee by February 15, 2025. The report must include a recommendation on whether to redesignate the current state insect and, if so, which insect and why. The group ends once it submits the report or on February 15, 2025, whichever is later.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2024, except that the provision on the state insect working group is effective upon passage.

WORKING GROUP

Under the act, the working group consists of eight members. The House speaker must appoint two members, one of whom must be a student interested in making the spring azure butterfly the state insect, and the Senate president pro tempore must appoint two members, one of whom must be a student interested in making the autumn meadowhawk dragonfly the state insect. The House and Senate majority and minority leaders must each appoint one of the other four members. Any of the working group members may be General Assembly members, all initial appointments must be made within 30 days after the act becomes effective (i.e., by July 5, 2024), and any vacancy must be filled by the appointing authority.

The act requires the House speaker and Senate president pro tempore to select the working group's chairpersons from among its members. The chairpersons must schedule and hold the group's first meeting within 60 days after the act takes effect (i.e., by August 4, 2024). The GAE Committee's administrative staff must serve as the working group's administrative staff.