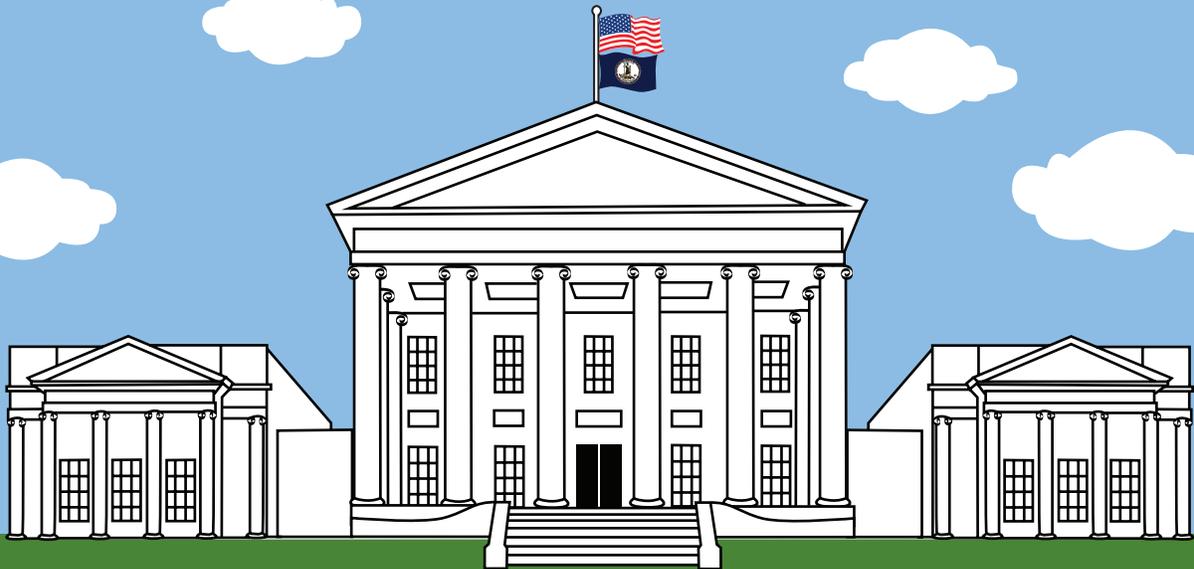




A FIRST STEP

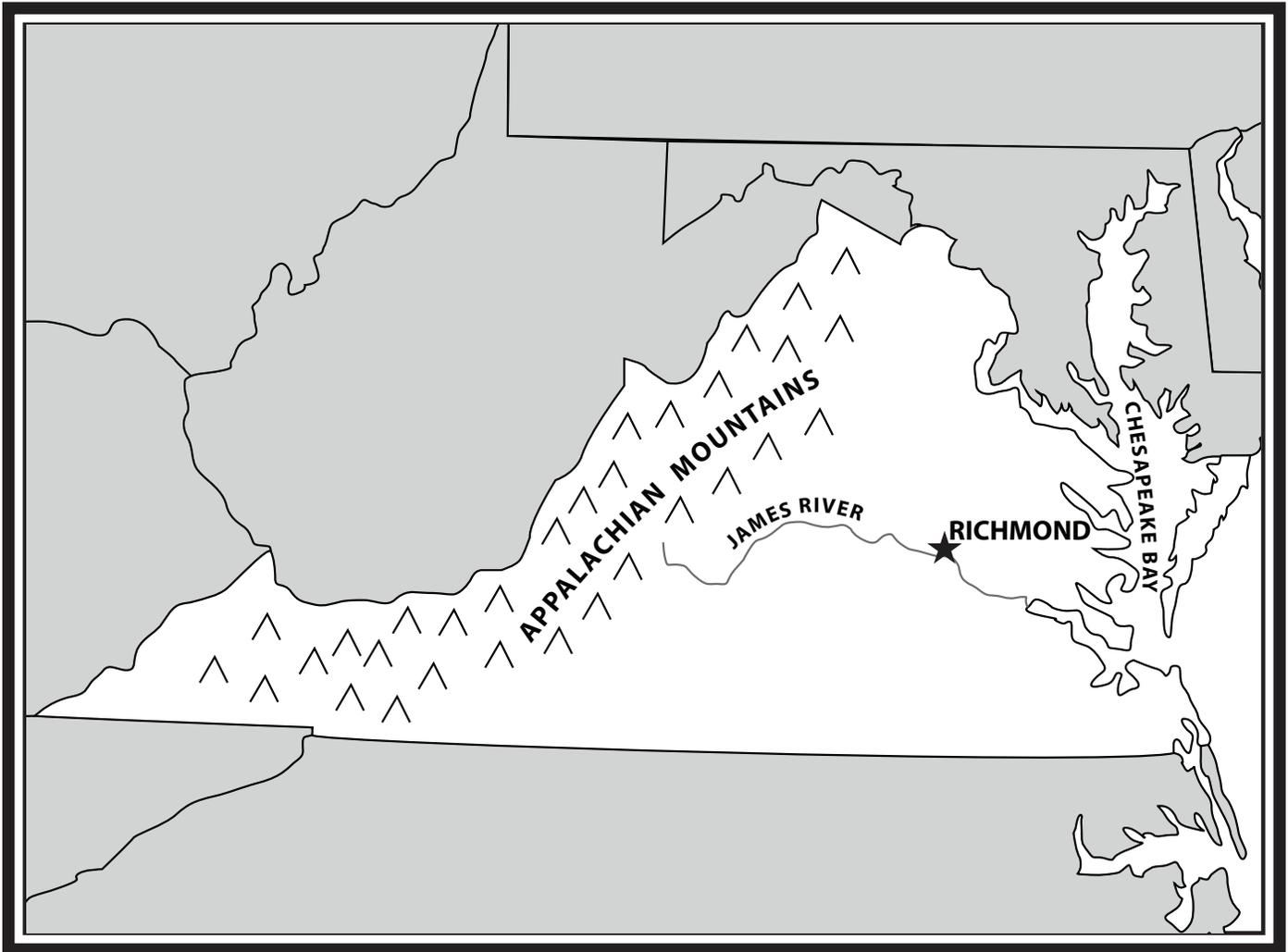
to the
Virginia General Assembly



An Information and Activities Book
for pre-school and kindergarten students



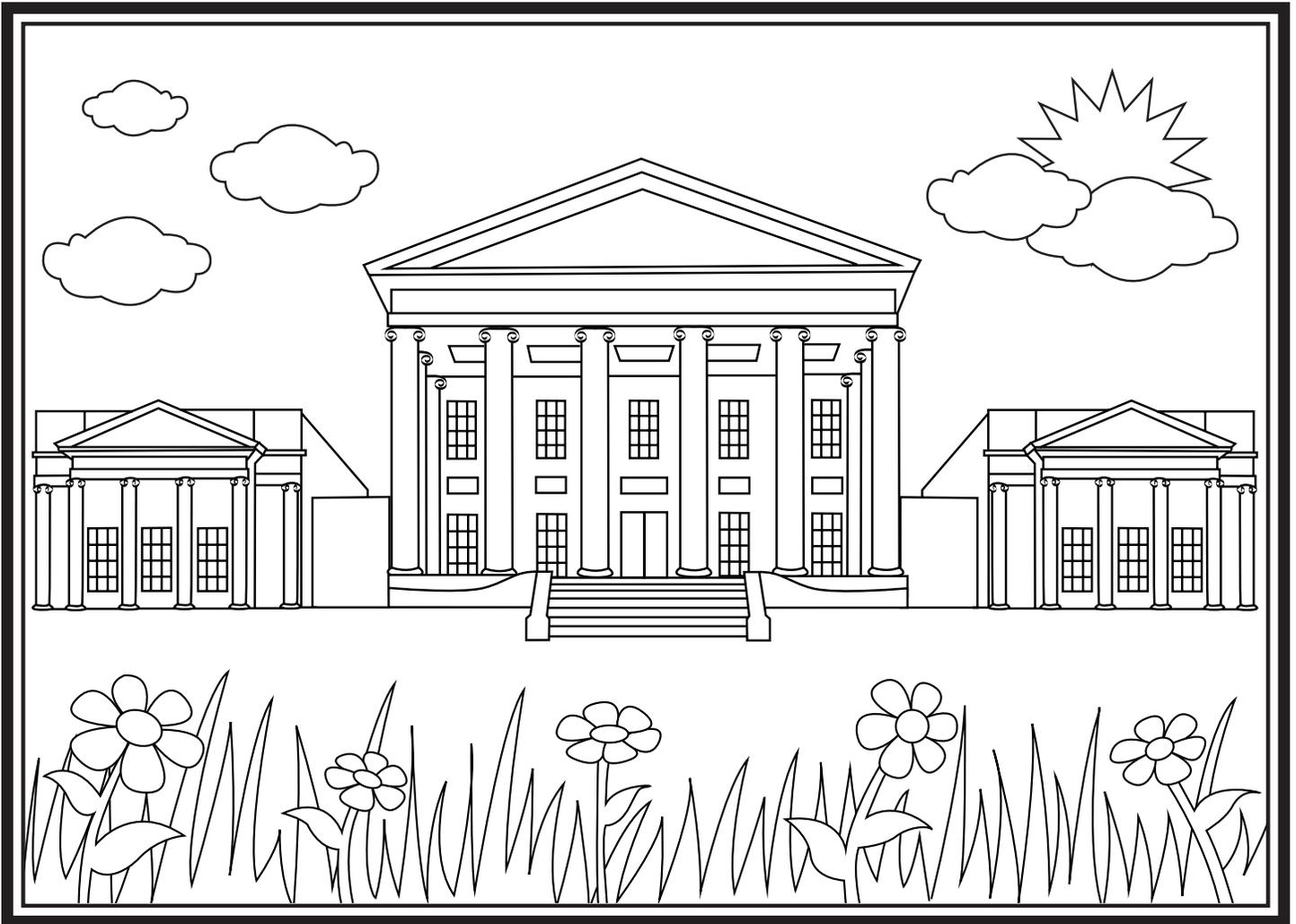
A First Step to Virginia Geography



The State Capitol is located in Richmond. Senators and Delegates come to the Capitol to make laws. Find and circle Richmond on the map.

The James River flows from west to east through Richmond. It begins in the Appalachian Mountains and empties into the Chesapeake Bay.

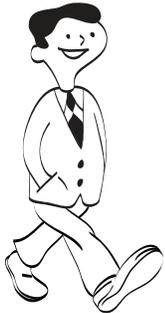
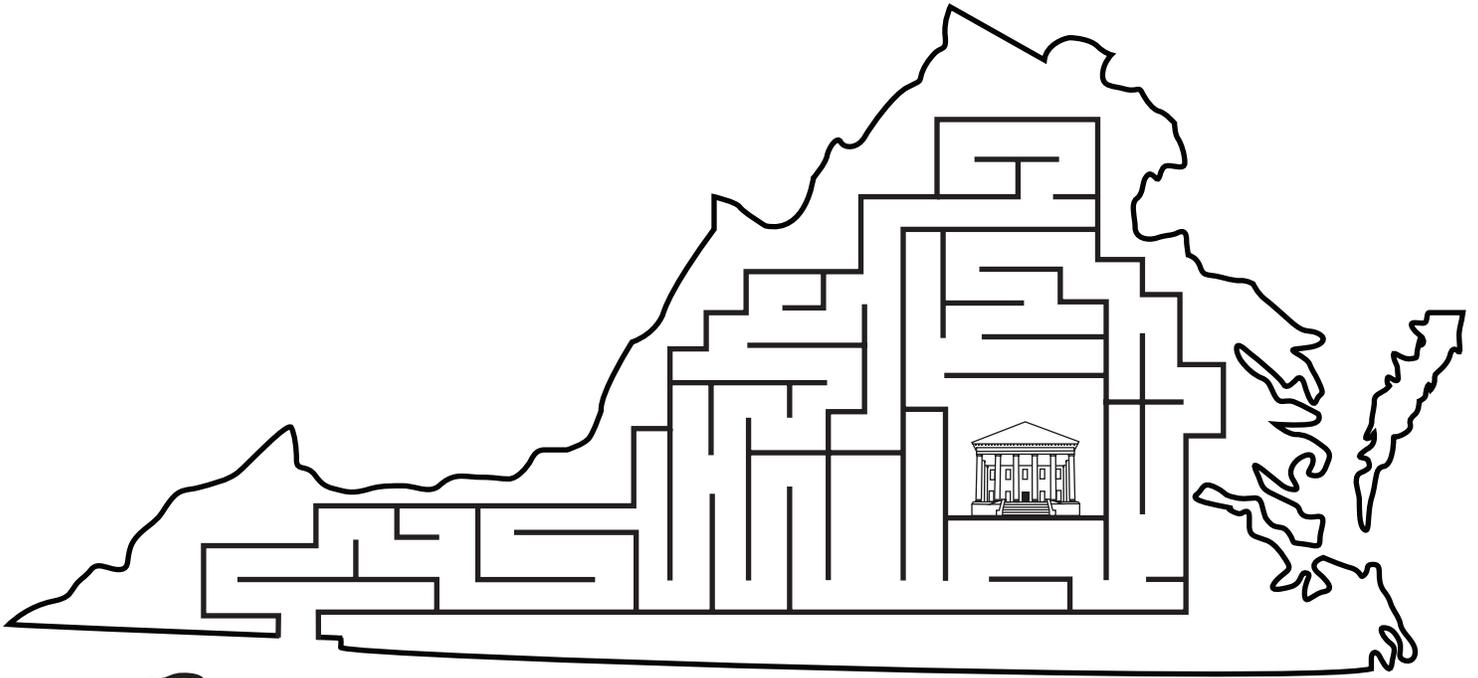
A First Step to the Virginia State Capitol



The Capitol is bright white. Color the Capitol Grounds.

The Senate meets in the West Wing. The House of Delegates meets in the East Wing. The Governor has an office on the third floor of the Capitol.

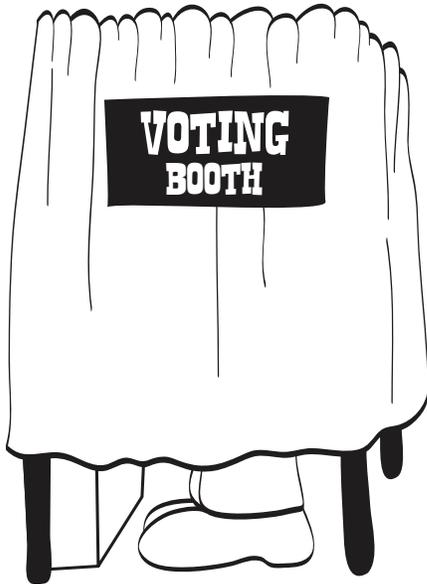
A First Step through the State of Virginia



Follow Senator Commonwealth on a trip through Virginia to gather ideas for new bills. Senator Commonwealth should end up at the State Capitol in Richmond.

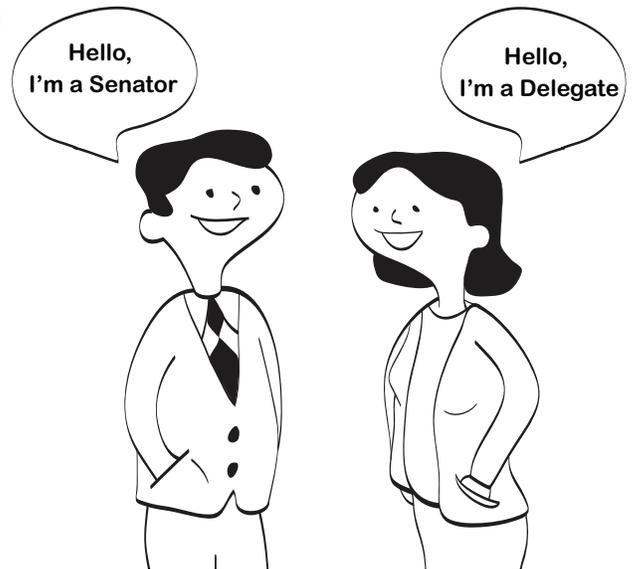
A First Step to Learning How a Bill Becomes a Law in Virginia

1



Citizens of Virginia vote to elect Senators and Delegates.

2



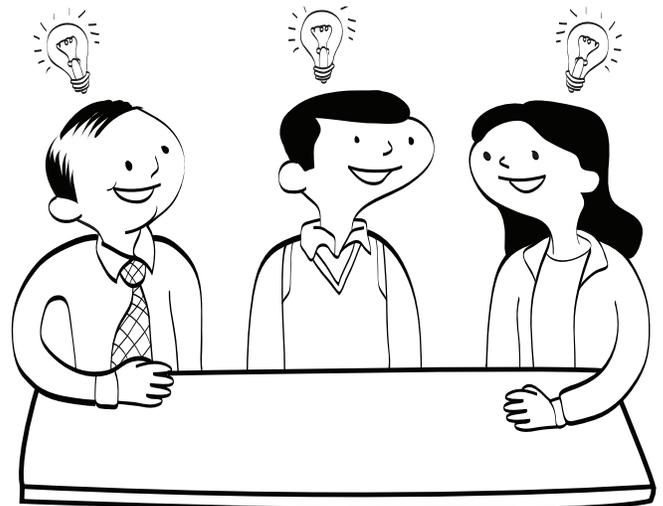
The General Assembly is made up of 40 Senators and 100 Delegates.

5



Senators and Delegates take turns talking about new laws.

6



They listen to each other and share ideas.

3



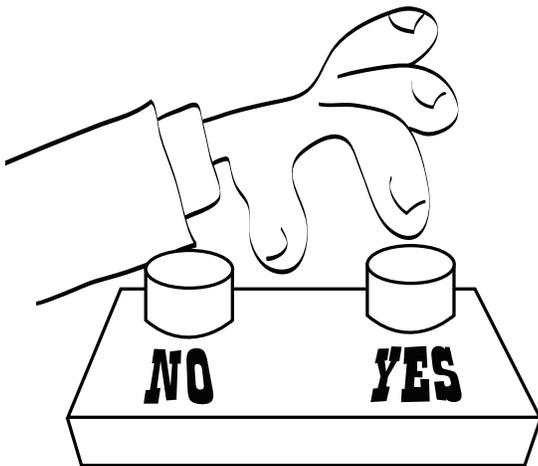
Each Senator and Delegate has ideas for new laws by meeting with different people.

4



The General Assembly meets in Richmond at the Capitol each year for 45 or 60 days.

7



Senators and Delegates must vote to pass a bill.

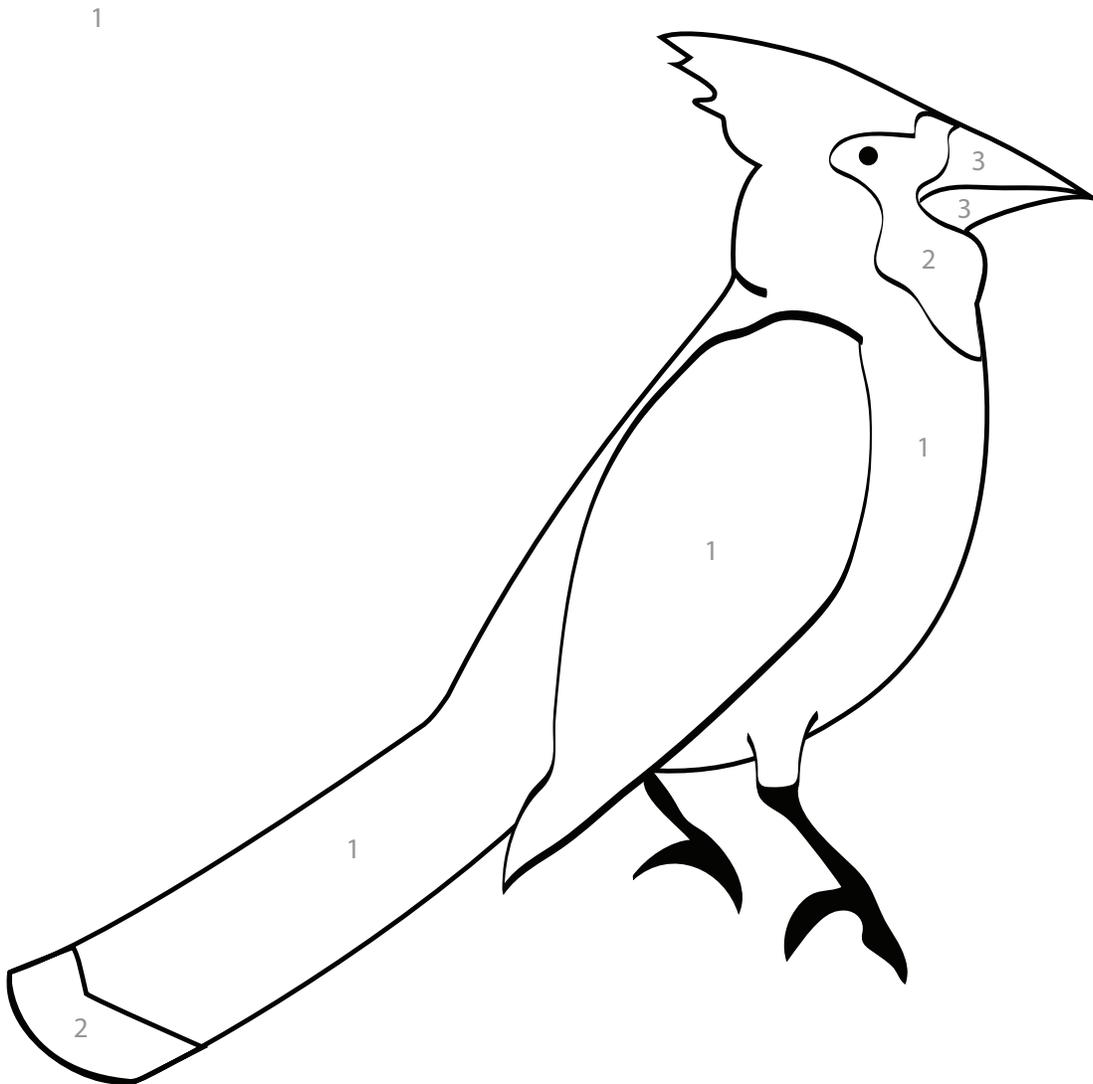
8



The Governor signs a bill to make it law.

A First Step to learning Virginia State Symbols

The official state bird is the **Cardinal**.



Color by Number

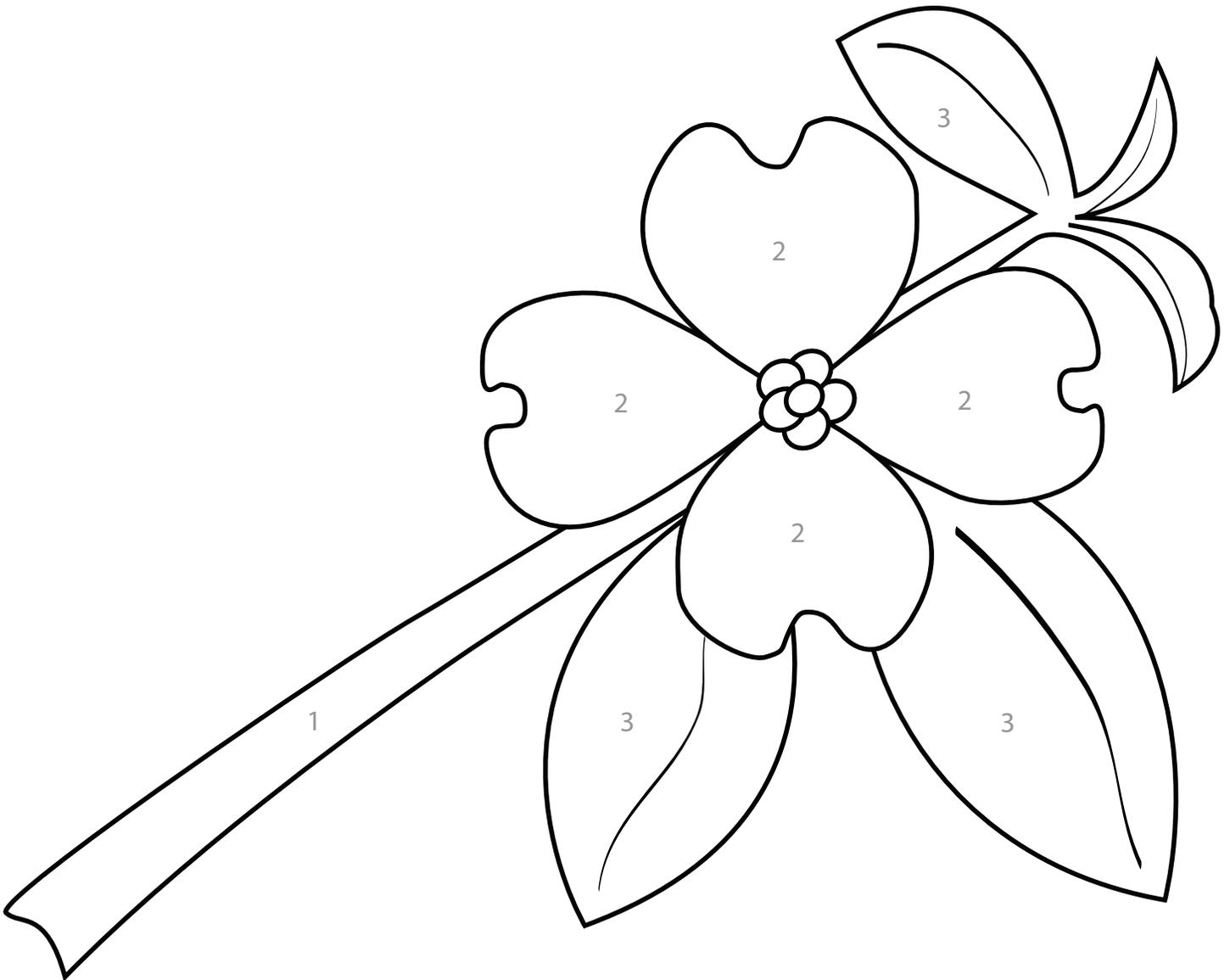
“1” is Red

“2” is Black

“3” is Yellow

The Cardinal is red!

The official state flower and tree is the
Dogwood



Color by Number

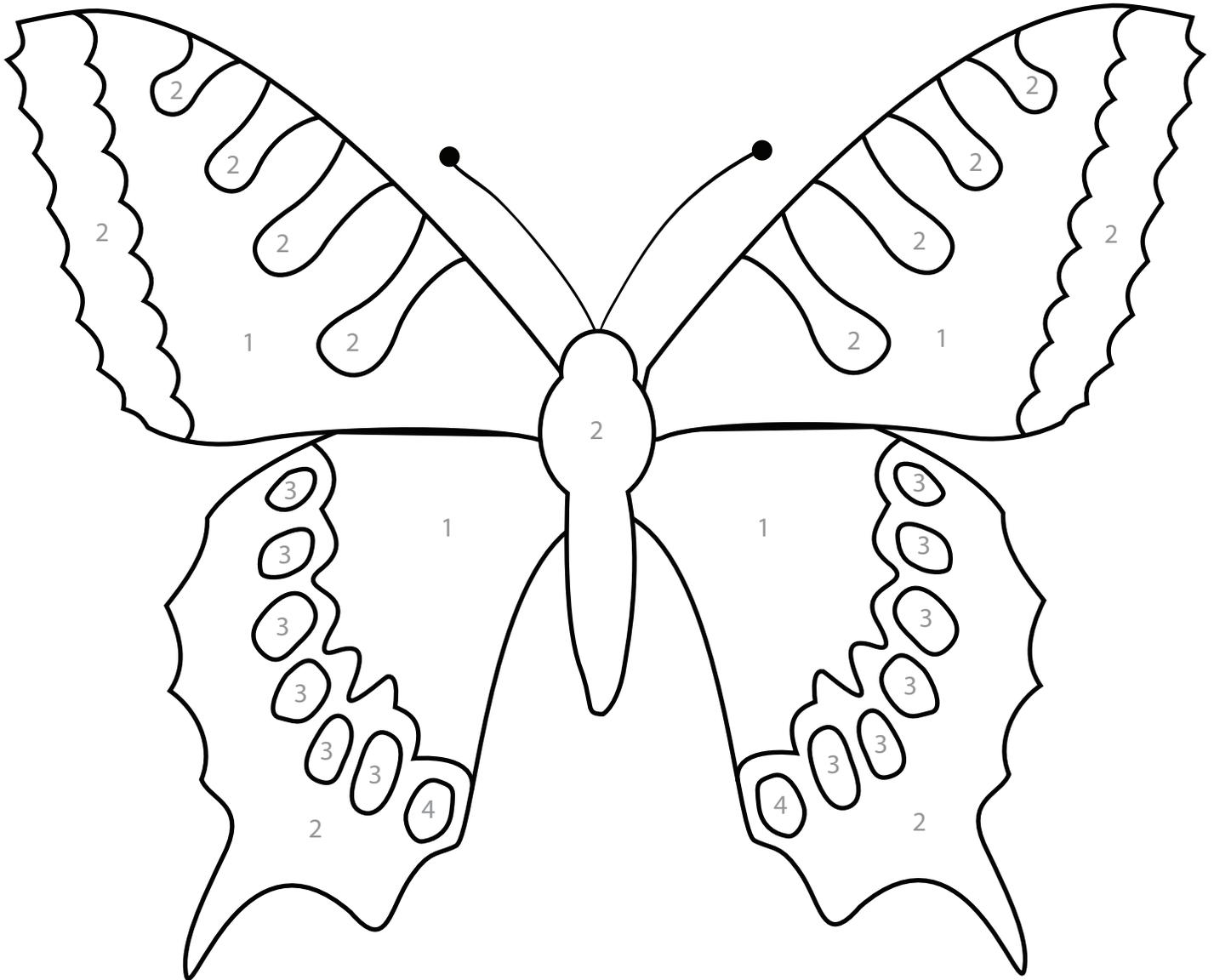
“1” is Brown

“2” is Pink or White

“3” is Green

Dogwood flowers bloom in the spring and are pink or white.

The official state insect is the
Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly



Color by Number

“1” is Yellow

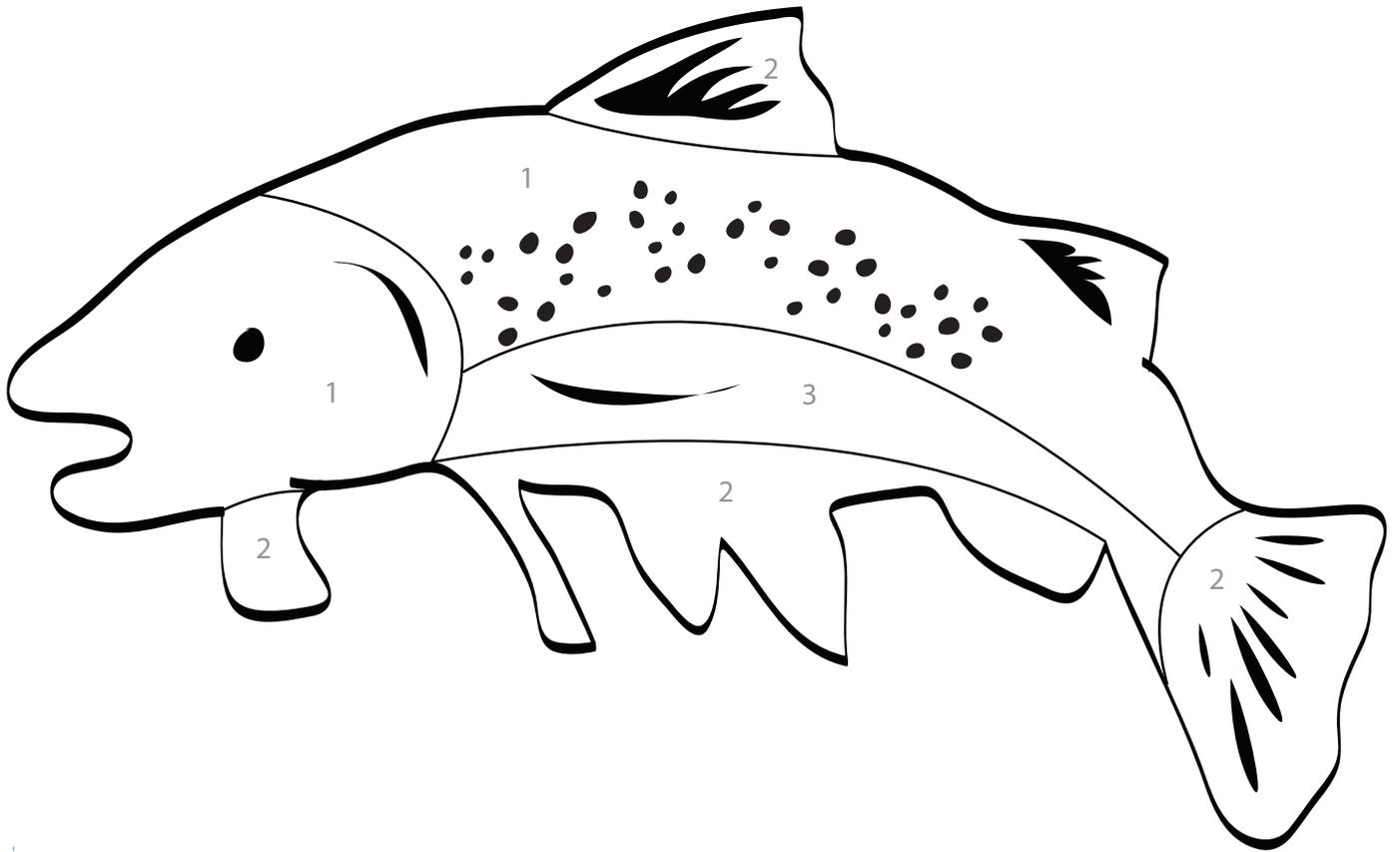
“2” is Black

“3” is Blue

“4” is Red

The stripes of this butterfly are bright yellow and dark black!

The official state fish is the
Brook Trout



Color by Number

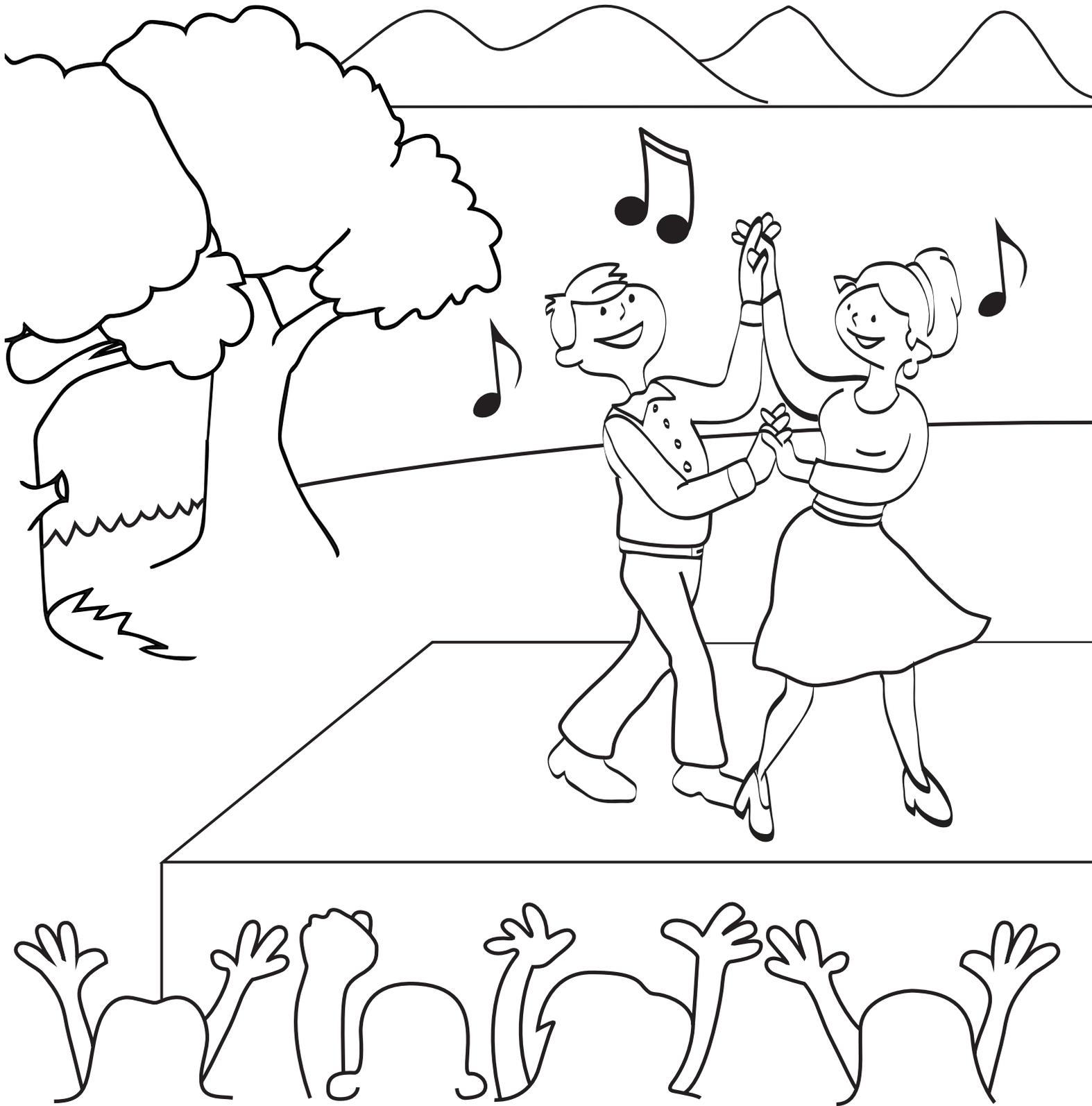
“1” is Green

“2” is Orange

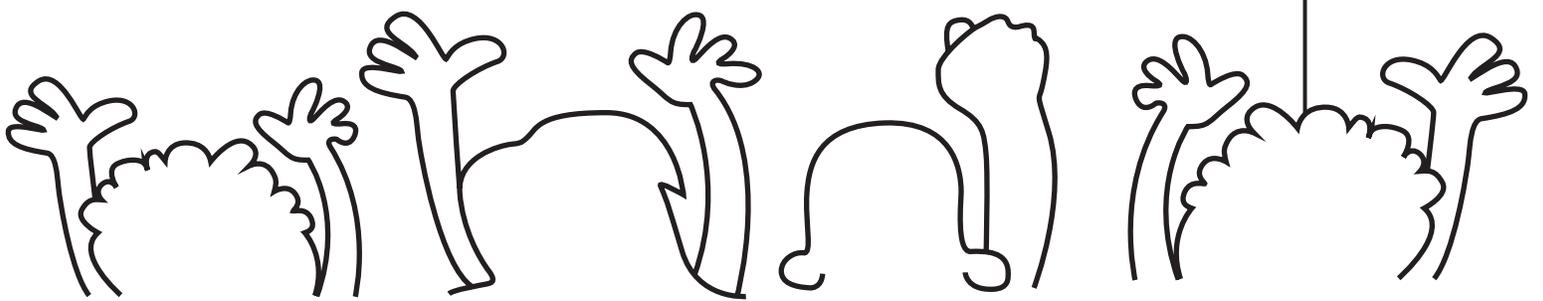
“3” is Light Blue

The trout has a green back, light blue sides and bright orange fins.
This trout loves the cold water of Virginia’s mountain streams.

Virginia State Symbols

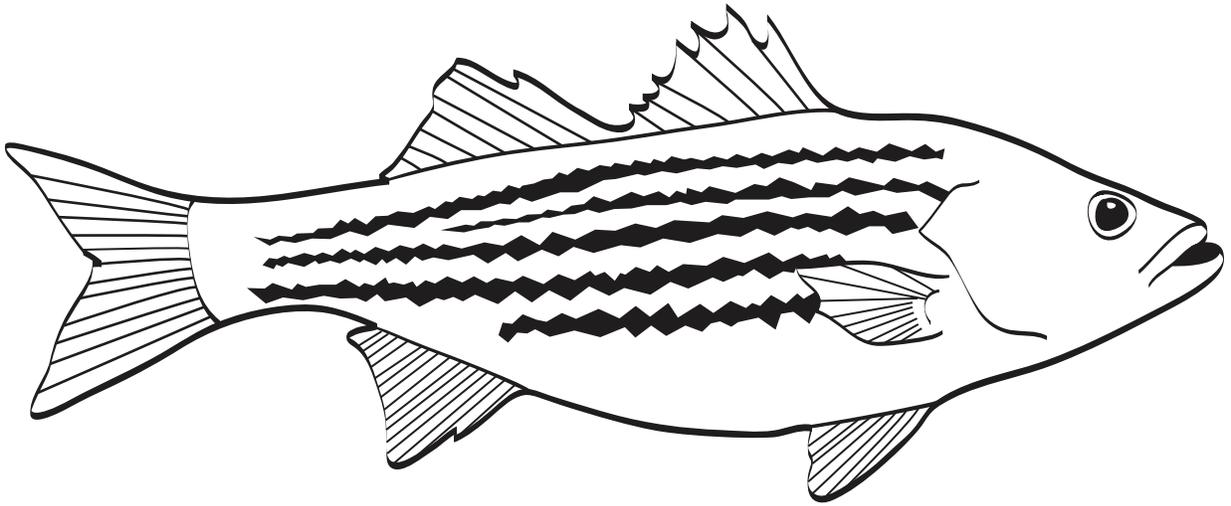


The official state folk dance is the
Square Dance



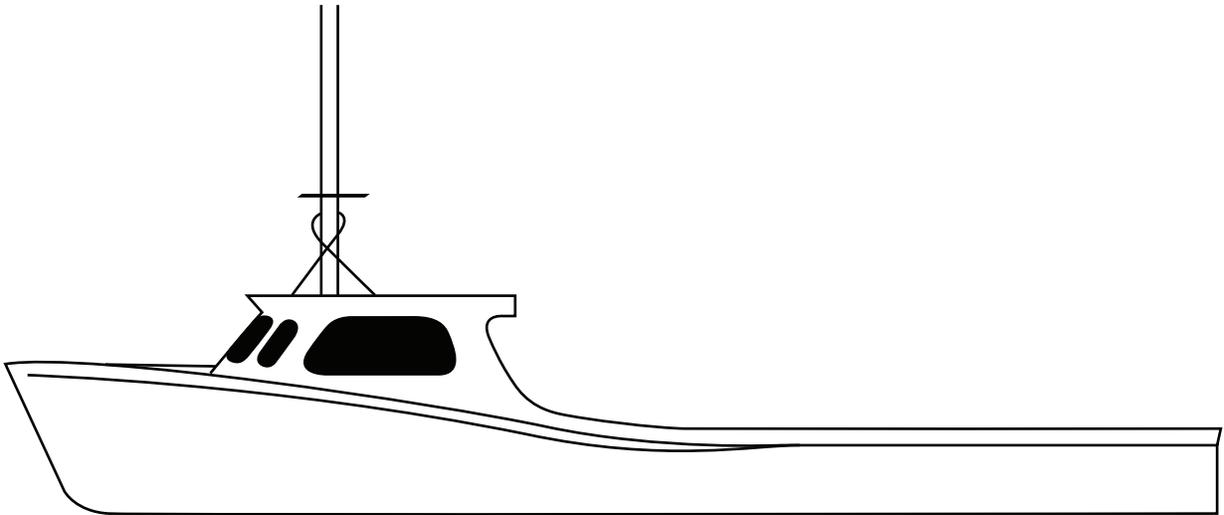
The official state songs are
“Sweet Virginia Breeze” and “Our Great Virginia”

The official state saltwater fish is the
Striped Bass



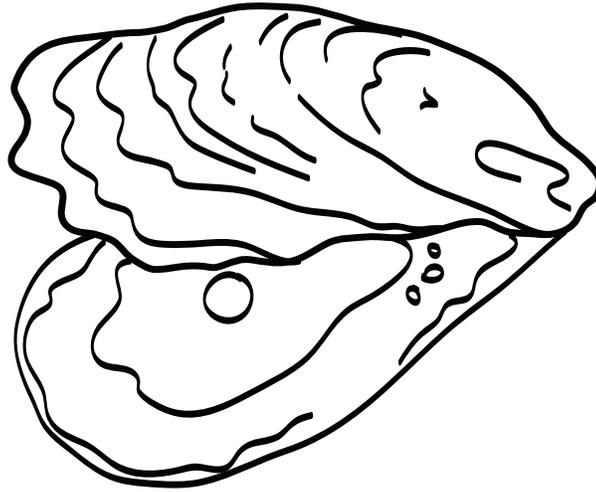
The striped bass lives in the waters off Virginia's coast.

The official state boat is the
Chesapeake Bay Deadrise



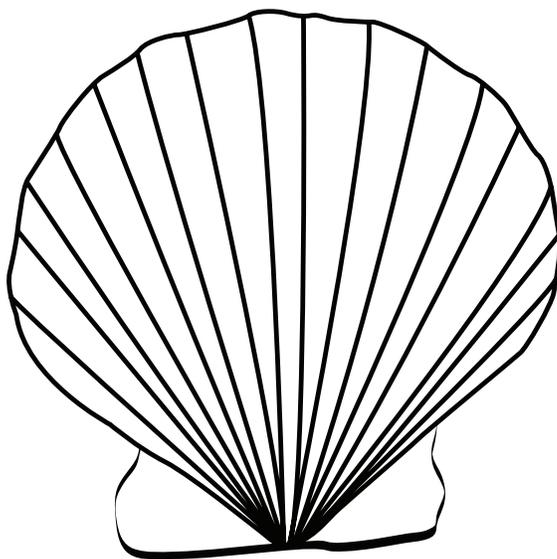
Fishermen use this boat for fishing, crabbing, and gathering oysters
in the Chesapeake Bay.

The official state shell is the
Oyster



Oysters have a grey shell and live under water
in the Chesapeake Bay and rivers.

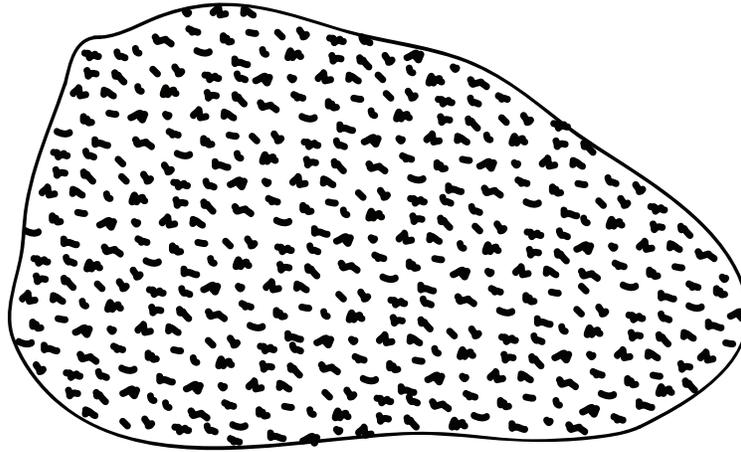
The official state fossil is the
Chesapecten Jeffersonius Fossil



This is a fossilized form of an extinct scallop. It was named for
Thomas Jefferson because of his interest in natural history.

The official state rock is

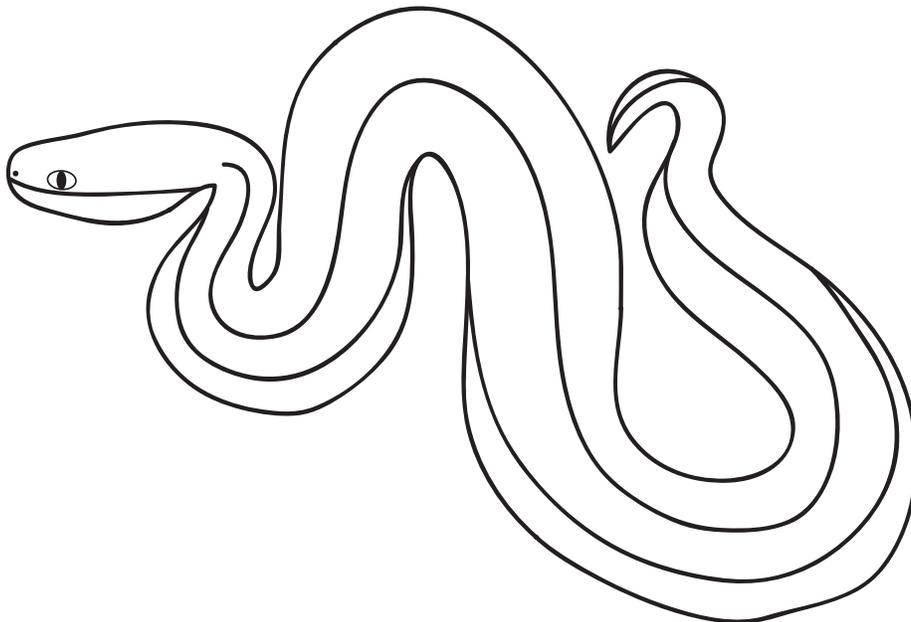
Nelsonite



This tan and dark speckled, titanium-laced rock is named after Nelson County, Virginia where it was discovered.

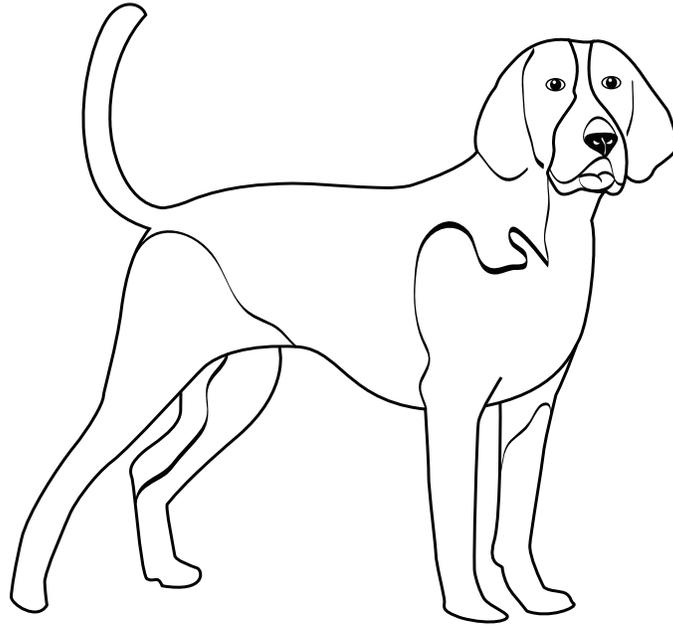
The official state snake is the

Eastern Garter Snake



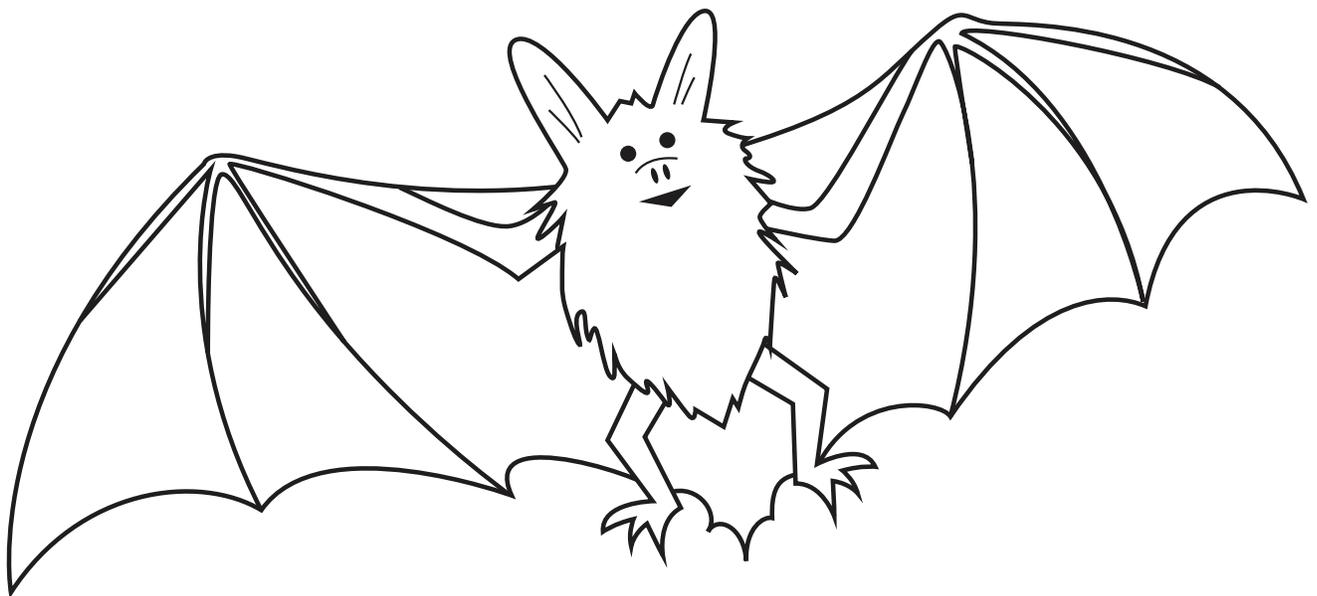
The Eastern Garter snake is either a greenish, brown, or black color and has a distinct yellow or white stripe.

The official state dog is the
American Foxhound



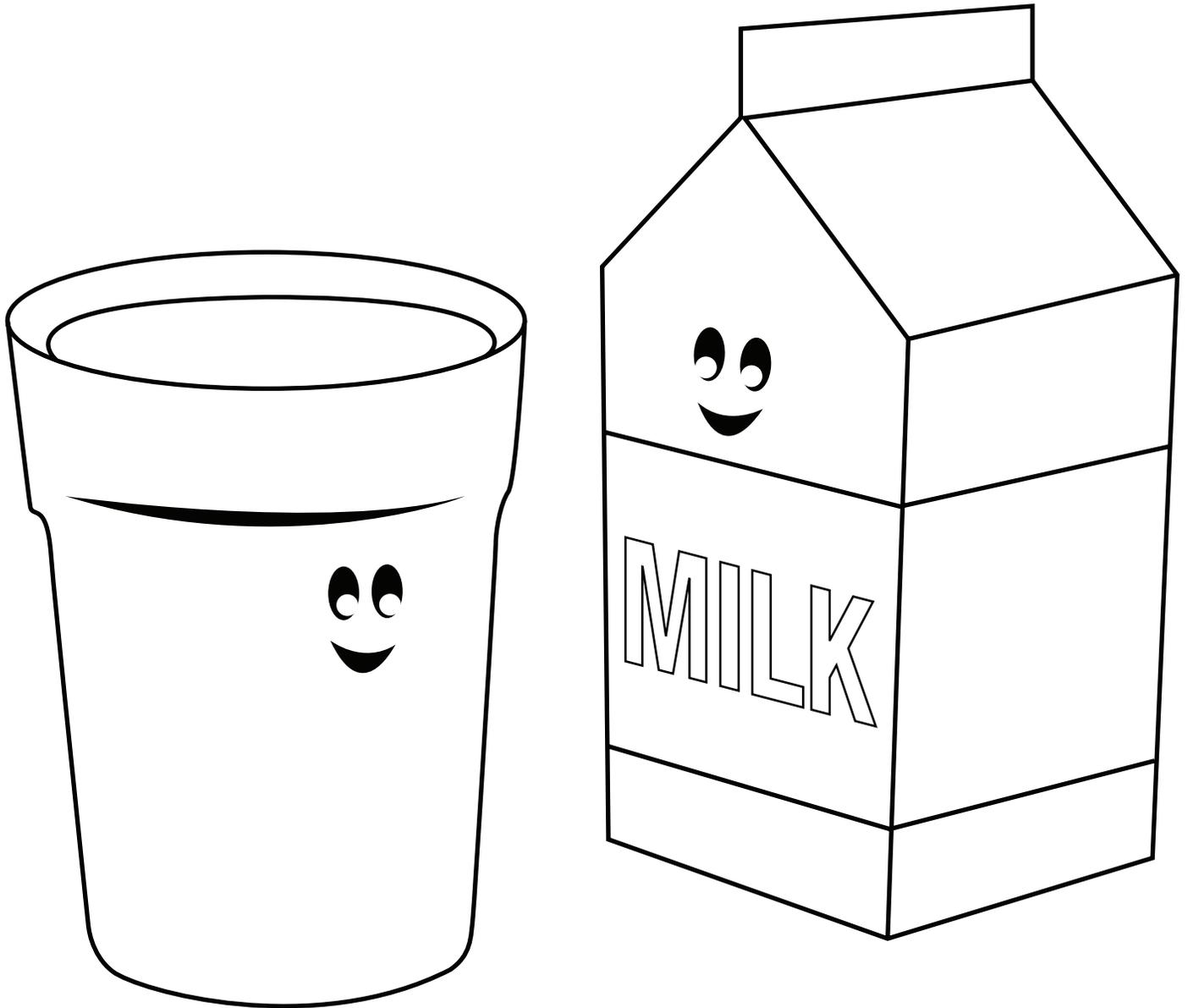
George Washington brought Foxhounds to Virginia to help him with hunting.

The official state bat is the
Big-Eared Bat



Bats have dark brown fur. You might see one flying outside at night!

The official state beverage is
Milk



Milk comes from dairy farms in Virginia and
is used to make butter and cheese.

Find the Hidden Message!



⌘	☒	⚙	✂	🏠	♁	😊	♏	⌚	♊	☎	🔔	📄
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
🎵	+	♦	(≈	♠	♣	✈	∞	≡	▲	?	▼
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

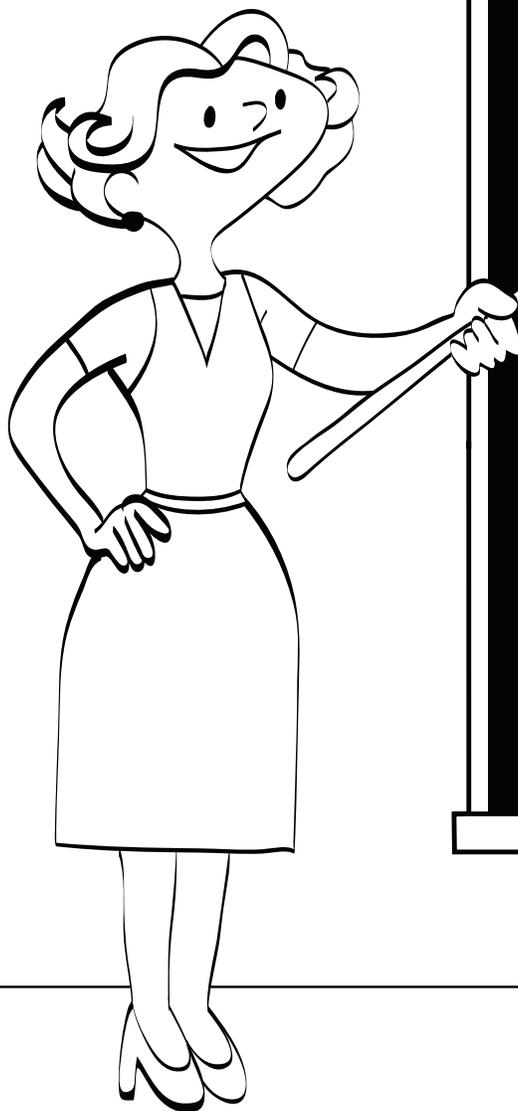
Use the Key to Decode Virginia's Nickname

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 + 🔔 ✂ ✂ + 📄 ⌚ 🎵 ⌚ + 🎵

Use the Key to Decode the name of Virginia's Capital City

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 ≈ ⌚ ⚙ ♏ 📄 + 🎵 ✂

The First Step to Knowing How Old I Have to Be to Serve



- 1. A Senate or House Page must be 13 or 14-years-old.**
- 2. A voter must be 18-years-old.**
- 3. A Senator must be 21-years-old.**
- 4. The Governor must be at least 30-years-old.**
- 5. The Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General must have the same qualifications as the Governor.**

The State Seal



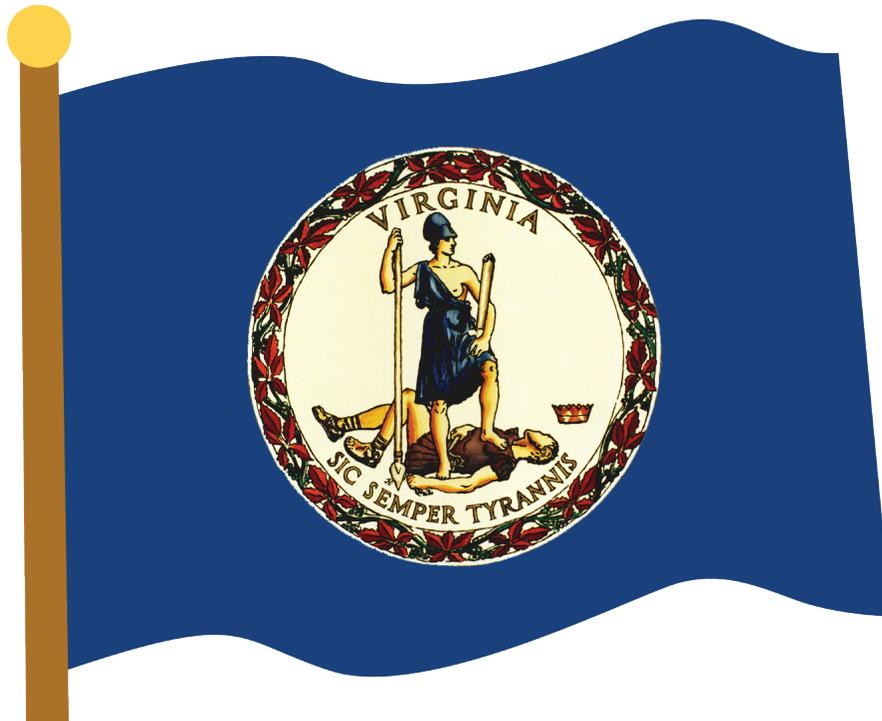
Thus Always to Tyrants



Preserving

The State Flag

The flag is deep blue. The State Seal is in the middle.



Answer Key

Page 17

Virginia's Nickname

OLD DOMINION

Virginia's Capital City

RICHMOND

Step further into Virginia Government on the Internet!

Virginia General Assembly

Capitol Classroom, Virtual Capitol Tour, "Who's My Legislator" and more!

<http://viriniageneralassembly.gov>

Commonwealth of Virginia

<http://virginia.gov>

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