



(AP) A poem that serves as a tribute to the state of Minnesota is in line for a tribute itself.

A bill that would designate Cordell Keith Haugen's "Minnesota Blue" as the official state poem surfaced Wednesday. It would add the poem to a pantheon of state symbols recognized in law. Hockey is the state sport, the loon is the state bird, the walleye is the state fish, blueberry is the official state muffin flavor. In all, Minnesota has a dozen official symbols.

The poem bill was introduced by Republican Sen. Bruce Anderson of Buffalo.

The 45-line poem starts and ends with a "Minnesota, how I love you" verse. Here's a link to the entire poem: <http://bit.ly/YraXql>