

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 133 (Delegates Schisler and Bozman)
Environmental Matters

Vehicle Laws - Transportation of a Deer Carcass - Restrictions

This bill prohibits a person from transporting a deer carcass in a vehicle on a highway in the State unless the deer carcass is covered so that it is not visible. However, a person may transport an uncovered deer carcass in a truck bed that is not enclosed on top, if the truck tailgate is closed and the truck bed is enclosed on the sides. A violation of this provision is not considered a moving violation, but is a misdemeanor, subject to a penalty of \$100.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Enforcement of the bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: Enforcement of the bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: State law does not regulate the manner of transporting a deer carcass in a motor vehicle on a highway.

Background: According to the Department of Natural Resources, Maryland's deer population was estimated at 249,000 before the close of the 2001-2002 hunting season – the latest period for which statistics are available. Deer are hunted by bow and arrow,

firearms, and muzzleloaders. The deer hunting season varies somewhat by region, but generally occurs from September to the end of January. During the 2001-2002 deer hunting season, 83,787 deer were harvested.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Natural Resources, Department of State Police, Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 2003
ncs/jr

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