

SB427 Delegation Support Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Christopher West

Position: FAV

KATHERINE KLAUSMEIER
Legislative District 8
Baltimore County

President Pro Tem Emeritus

Finance Committee

Chair

Baltimore County Senate Delegation



The Senate of Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 23, 2022

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The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky
Chair, Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Pinsky,

Please be advised that the Baltimore County Senate Delegation has given a Favorable Recommendation to **SB 427 – Baltimore County - Hunting - Nongame Birds and Mammals.**

If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Senator Kathy Klausmeier".

Senator Kathy Klausmeier
Chair, Baltimore County Senate Delegation

Senator West SB 849 - Child Custody Parenting Time

Uploaded by: Christopher West

Position: FAV

CHRIS WEST
Legislative District 42
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Judicial Proceedings Committee

Vice Chair, Baltimore County
Senate Delegation



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March 10, 2022
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable William C. Smith Jr.
2 East Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD, 21401

Re: SB 849 - Child Custody – Legal Decision-Making and Parenting Time

Dear Chairman Smith and members of the Committee,

Under Maryland law, the courts resolve child custody disputes based on a determination of what is in the child's best interests. The courts determine best interest by a series of factors from parent fitness and reputation, child preference and health, as well as separation length and opportunity of visitation.

Traditionally, when one parent was granted custody of a minor child, the other parent would generally be awarded visitation rights. In 1984, the Court of Appeals first recognized and applied the concept of "joint custody" in *Taylor v. Taylor*. The ruling explained that, within the meaning of "custody" are the concepts of "legal" and "physical" custody. "Legal custody" is defined as the right and obligation to make long-range decisions involving the education, religious training, discipline, medical care, and other matters of major significance concerning the child's life and welfare. "Physical custody" means the right and obligation to provide a home for the child and to make the day-to-day decisions required during the time the child is with the parent having such custody.

Senate Bill 849 alters provisions of law relating to child custody and visitation proceedings and establishes numerous factors for courts to consider in cases involving legal decision making and parenting time. "Legal decision making" and "parenting time" are analogous of "legal custody" and "physical custody" respectively. The Bill also establishes that a court may award legal decision making or parenting time to one parent or jointly to the parents. No parent is presumed to have any right to legal decision making or parenting time that is superior to the right of another parent. The bill also specifies that a parent is a biological parent, an adoptive parent, or an individual a court has deemed to be a de facto parent.

Furthermore, Senate Bill 849 establishes a new subtitle specifying numerous factors for judicial consideration in cases involving legal decision making and parental responsibility. The purpose of the provisions includes (1) promoting stability and long-term health and welfare for children by specified methods; (2) providing children with physical and emotional security and protection from exposure to conflict and violence; and (3) providing for an expeditious, thoughtful, and consistent process for decision making by courts to protect the best interests of children.

This Bill is a comprehensive addition to child custody decisions which will further ensure the safety and prosperity of young Marylanders with separated parents.

I appreciate the Committee's consideration of Senate Bill 849 and will be happy to answer any follow-up questions the Committee may have.

Support of SB 427 - Baltimore County - Hunting-Non

Uploaded by: Colby Ferguson

Position: FAV



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

March 9, 2022

To: Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of SB 427 - Baltimore County - Hunting – Nongame Bird and Mammals

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support of SB 427, legislation that repeals a requirement that you must first purchase a hunting license before you can hunt or trap groundhogs in Baltimore County. Farmers continue to have troubles with groundhogs in their fields and barns. If passed, this bill would allow farmers in Baltimore County to follow the same requirements as farmers in every other county in the state.

Wildlife like groundhogs continue to cause crop and farm equipment damage on Maryland farms around the state. Only in Baltimore County does a farmer and their hired workers need a hunting license to be able to remove problem groundhogs around their farm. This bill cleans up an outdated law and conforms Baltimore County's law with all the other counties in the state that don't require a hunting license to remove groundhogs.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 427 AND ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colby Ferguson'.

Colby Ferguson
Director of Government Relations

For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396

SB 427_jchason_fav.pdf

Uploaded by: Jo-Ann Chason

Position: FAV

March 9, 2022

To: Senate Education, Health, and Environment Committee

Re: Support of SB 427 - Baltimore County - Hunting - Nongame Bird and Mammals

From: Baltimore County Farm Bureau

Only in Baltimore County is it required for a farmer to purchase a hunting license to hunt and trap groundhogs. I submit this written testimony in support of SB 427 on behalf of the over 1,100 members of Baltimore County Farm Bureau. Throughout the state of Maryland groundhogs, the holes they create and the mounds of soil they excavate cause injury to livestock, damage to crops, farm equipment and structures. In short, we are required annually to pay for a license to control a nuisance that is costing us money. This bill, if passed, will correct the superfluous requirements of only those who farm in Baltimore County while still requiring a Certificate of Competency in Firearms and Hunting Safety and that Safety Zone Regulations are met as outlined in the Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping. For additional information I refer you to pages 8, 12, 14, and 54 of the printed guide. The link is below. I am able to discuss and provide more proof to this point upon request.

Baltimore County farmers and landowners are simply asking for the same rights as every other farmer and landowner in the state!

I ask on you to vote favorably for SB 427.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU & BALTIMORE COUNTY FARM BUREAU SUPPORT SB 427 AND ENCOURAGES THE COMMITTEE TO VOTE FAVORABLY.

Jo-Ann Chason

Baltimore County Farm Bureau Board

jo.ann.chason@gmail.com

443-807-1007

https://www.eregulations.com/assets/docs/guides/21MDHD_VLR.pdf