THOMAS S. HUTCHINSON *Legislative District 37B* Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot, and Wicomico Counties

Health and Government Operations Committee

Subcommittees

Public Health and Minority Health Disparities

Health Occupations and Long-Term Care



The Maryland House of Delegates 6 Bladen Street, Room 308 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3582 · 301-858-3582 800-492-7122 *Ext.* 3582 Tom.Hutchinson@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB934 Natural Resources- Female Deer Hunting Contests- Authorization

Environment and Transportation Committee

March 1, 2023

Why We Need This Bill

Deer populations have increased at our natural areas and beyond resulting in a downward impact on forest health, agriculture destruction, deer ticks and disease and vehicle / deer collisions

Currently the state allows deer hunting in Maryland-

- Early September through the end of January
- Thanksgiving December for two weeks
- January, a three- day short season
- Mid-October and late December

As the deer population continues to grow, we need to do more to curb the growth.

What Does This Bill Do

HB934 allows female deer hunting contests, with random lottery awards, to harvest female deer, with the goal of curbing the deer population.

I respectfully ask the Committee for a FAVORABLE vote on HB934.