



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

February 13, 2024

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 367 - First Reader

SHORT TITLE: Natural Resources - Antlerless Deer Hunting Programs - Authorization

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION

EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT'S POSITION =

The Department's Wildlife and Heritage Service (WHS) is primarily responsible for a variety of different aspects of DNR's role in wildlife management. This includes monitoring wildlife populations, establishing hunting seasons, and protecting endangered species to name a few.

The proposed legislation is a specific exemption to the statute related to the sale, barter, or exchange of legally acquired deer.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Current law prohibits the sale, barter or exchange of whole deer. Exceptions are included for mounted specimens. The existing contest referenced by the bill requires this legislation to avoid further ambiguity as to the legal status of the contest. The bill creates a limited exception for the particular contest occurring in four counties.

BILL EXPLANATION

This bill authorizes a person to receive a raffle ticket for each antlerless deer hunted by the person during a raffle program that (1) is held in January; (2) has as its objective the hunting of antlerless deer; and (3) was previously held at least once from January 1, 2020, through January 30, 2024, inclusive.

Contact: Dylan Behler, Director, Legislative and Constituent Services
dylan.behler@maryland.gov ♦ 410-260-8113 (office) ♦ 443-924-0891 (cell)