
By: **Delegate Walkup**

Introduced and read first time: February 23, 1999

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hunting Licenses - Funds - Wildlife Habitat Improvement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to use certain
4 funds to improve wildlife habitat in the State; authorizing the Department to
5 use certain funds for certain initiatives to improve wildlife habitat; authorizing
6 the Department to hire contractual employees to implement certain wildlife
7 habitat initiatives, to provide matching funds to certain landowners for wildlife
8 habitat development, and to enter into contracts to reimburse certain farmers
9 for planting and leaving unharvested grains, grasses, and legumes for a
10 specified purpose; and generally relating to the use of funds from hunting
11 licenses for wildlife habitat improvement.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article - Natural Resources
14 Section 10-301(l) and (m)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article - Natural Resources**

20 10-301.

21 (l) (1) [Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the] THE
22 Department shall use any funds generated by the increase in fees that are charged for
23 each hunting license for a nonresident under subsection (f)(5)(iv) and (v) and \$10.00 of
24 each fee charged under subsection (f)(5)(vii) of this section only [for the purpose of
25 feeding game birds and mammals] TO IMPROVE WILDLIFE HABITAT in the State.

26 (2) [In fiscal year 1989, the Department shall use the funds under
27 paragraph (1) of this subsection for any purpose that the Department considers
28 appropriate.

1 (3) In fiscal year 1990 and in each subsequent fiscal year, the] THE
2 Department [shall] MAY use the funds under paragraph (1) of this subsection only for
3 the purposes of [the feeding program] IMPROVING WILDLIFE HABITAT under
4 subsection (m) of this section.

5 (m) [The Department may enter into contracts with farmers in the State to
6 reimburse the farmer for planting and leaving grains, grasses, and legumes, including
7 clover, alfalfa, and soybeans, unharvested in the fields in order to be used to provide
8 feed for any game birds and mammals in the State.] THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE THE
9 FUNDS TO:

10 (1) HIRE CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES TO IMPLEMENT WILDLIFE
11 HABITAT INITIATIVES PROVIDED THROUGH STATE AND FEDERAL CONSERVATION
12 PROGRAMS;

13 (2) PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT DEVELOPMENT
14 TO LANDOWNERS IN THE STATE; OR

15 (3) ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH FARMERS IN THE STATE TO
16 REIMBURSE THE FARMER FOR PLANTING AND LEAVING UNHARVESTED GRAINS,
17 GRASSES, AND LEGUMES IN THE FIELDS TO PROVIDE FOOD OR COVER FOR
18 WILDLIFE.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 July 1, 1999.