
By: **Senator Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Canada Goose Hunting - Season and Bag Limits - Federal Maximums**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to adopt a certain
4 season for hunting Canada geese in conformance with federal regulations;
5 requiring the Department to adopt a certain bag limit for hunting Canada geese
6 in accordance with federal regulations; and generally relating to Canada goose
7 hunting and the federal maximums for season and bag limits.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Natural Resources
10 Section 10-407 and 10-409
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Natural Resources**

16 10-407.

17 (a) Before establishing the open season for ducks, except sea ducks, geese, and
18 swan as required by subsection (b) of this section, the Department shall conduct
19 public hearings on the proposed season, at least 1 of which shall be held, on an
20 alternating basis, in Wicomico, Somerset, Worcester or Dorchester Counties.

21 (b) The Department annually shall establish and publish the open season,
22 excepting Sundays, for doves, mergansers, woodcock, and wetland game birds,
23 including wild waterfowl, in conformity with the federal migratory bird rules and
24 regulations adopted annually by the Secretary of Interior of the United States.

25 (C) THE DEPARTMENT ANNUALLY, IN ESTABLISHING AND PUBLISHING THE
26 OPEN SEASON, EXCEPTING SUNDAYS, FOR CANADA GEESE, SHALL CONFORM TO THE
27 LONGEST SEASON AUTHORIZED BY THE FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD RULES AND

1 REGULATIONS ADOPTED ANNUALLY BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR OF THE
2 UNITED STATES.

3 10-409.

4 (A) Pursuant to § 10-205 of this title, the Department shall establish and
5 publish by April 25 each year the bag limits per day for game birds and mammals by
6 regulation for the ensuing year.

7 (B) The bag limits for ducks, geese, brant, railbirds, woodcock, mergansers,
8 doves, and snipe may conform to the federal migratory bird rules and regulations
9 adopted annually by the Secretary of Interior of the United States.

10 (C) THE BAG LIMIT FOR CANADA GEESE SHALL CONFORM TO THE HIGHEST
11 BAG LIMIT AUTHORIZED BY THE FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD RULES AND
12 REGULATIONS ADOPTED ANNUALLY BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR OF THE
13 UNITED STATES.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2000.