
By: **Senators Colburn, Baker, Stoltzfus, and Middleton**
Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001
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 bag limit for hunting Canada geese in
6 accordance with federal regulations, up to a certain maximum bag limit; and
7 generally relating to Canada goose hunting and the federal maximums for
8 season and bag limits.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Natural Resources
11 Section 10-407 and 10-409
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1990 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Natural Resources**

17 10-407.

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

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

26 (C) IN ESTABLISHING AND PUBLISHING THE ANNUAL OPEN SEASON FOR
27 CANADA GEESE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONFORM TO THE LONGEST SEASON

1 AUTHORIZED BY THE FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD RULES AND REGULATIONS
2 ADOPTED ANNUALLY BY THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR OF THE 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 INTERIOR OF THE
13 UNITED STATES, UP TO BUT NOT TO EXCEED A BAG LIMIT OF 2 BIRDS.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2001.