
By: **Senator Baker**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2002

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hunting - Regulation of Moorings - Blinds and Blind Sites**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a local governing body to develop and administer its
4 own mooring program, subject to approval by the Department of Natural
5 Resources; requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations; altering
6 certain provisions governing the regulation of moorings to provide that a local
7 governing body that develops a mooring program may not be precluded from
8 allowing a mooring even if the mooring may limit or affect hunting on certain
9 land or blinds or blind sites; prohibiting, in Kent County, a person from hunting,
10 between certain dates, from certain blinds or blind sites that are within a
11 certain distance of a certain mooring; and generally relating to the regulation of
12 moorings and blinds and blind sites.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Natural Resources
15 Section 8-704(b) and 10-608(g)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

20 **Article - Natural Resources**

21 8-704.

22 (b) (1) In order to protect the public safety, welfare, and recreational
23 interests in waters of the State, the Department may adopt a program relating to the
24 placement of buoys, mooring buoys, and other apparatus used to secure, berth, or
25 moor vessels in the waters of the State. The Department shall consult with any
26 county affected by the program.

27 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH
28 REQUIREMENTS FOR A LOCAL GOVERNING BODY TO DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER ITS
29 OWN MOORING PROGRAM.

1 (3) (I) SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE DEPARTMENT, A LOCAL
2 GOVERNING BODY MAY DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER ITS OWN MOORING PROGRAM.

3 (II) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO THE
4 CONTRARY, IF A LOCAL GOVERNING BODY DEVELOPS A MOORING PROGRAM, THE
5 LOCAL GOVERNING BODY MAY NOT BE PRECLUDED FROM ALLOWING A MOORING
6 EVEN IF THE MOORING MAY LIMIT OR AFFECT HUNTING ON NEARBY LAND OR AN
7 OFFSHORE STATIONARY BLIND OR BLIND SITE.

8 10-608.

9 (g) (1) In Kent County and Queen Anne's County and on the nontidal waters
10 of the Potomac River and its nontidal tributaries, only a riparian landowner owning
11 the amount of shoreline required under § 10-607(d) of this subtitle or a landowner's
12 lessee, licensee, or assignee may erect and maintain a stationary blind or blind site.

13 (2) IN KENT COUNTY, A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT BETWEEN MARCH 1
14 AND NOVEMBER 1 FROM A LICENSED SHORE BLIND OR OFFSHORE STATIONARY
15 BLIND OR BLIND SITE THAT IS LOCATED WITHIN 150 YARDS OF A MOORING THAT IS
16 OCCUPIED AND HAS BEEN ISSUED A PERMIT BY THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 July 1, 2002.