
By: **Delegate Edwards**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2004

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Hunting - Reporting of Deer Kill**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a person killing a deer to report to a designated
4 checking station with either the unskinned deer or the fresh skin and head of
5 the deer within a certain period of time after killing the deer; repealing the
6 prohibition on a person removing the head, hide, or any other part from any
7 deer before the deer has been checked at a designated checking station; and
8 generally relating to the reporting of a deer kill.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Natural Resources
11 Section 10-415(b), (f), (g), and (i)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

14 BY repealing
15 Article - Natural Resources
16 Section 10-415(e)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

21 **Article - Natural Resources**

22 10-415.

23 (b) (1) Every person killing a deer shall report with the UNSKINNED deer OR
24 THE FRESH SKIN AND HEAD OF THE DEER to a designated checking station within 24
25 hours after killing the deer.

26 (2) Notwithstanding any requirement of law, if the designated checking
27 stations are closed in the county where a person kills a deer, a Natural Resources

1 police officer shall authorize the person to report with the deer to a designated
2 checking station in another county.

3 [(e) A person may not remove the head or hide or any part from any deer,
4 except internal organs, or cut the meat into parts until the deer has been checked by
5 the Department or 1 of the Department's agents at a designated checking station.
6 Removal of the head or the hide of any deer not checked at a designated checking
7 station shall be prima facie evidence that the deer was hunted illegally. Each separate
8 deer or part of any deer taken illegally or found in possession shall be considered a
9 separate offense.]

10 [(f) (E) Any person who, while operating a motor vehicle on any highway in
11 the State, accidentally strikes and kills a deer on the highway may have the deer if
12 the person produces visible evidence of collision with the deer to any Natural
13 Resources police officer, State law enforcement officer, or other designated
14 representative of the Secretary. The provisions of this subsection shall be applicable
15 to deer killed by collision with a motor vehicle at any time whether during the open
16 season for killing deer or during the legally closed season.

17 [(g) (F) A person may not hunt a deer while the deer is taking refuge in or
18 swimming through the waters of the State.

19 [(i) (G) Upon written request from a federal facility for a variance from the
20 established deer hunting season, the Department shall review the request and may:

- 21 (1) Approve the request;
- 22 (2) Deny the request; or
- 23 (3) Approve the request with conditions.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2004.