
By: **Delegates Eckardt, Cane, Elmore, Haddaway, and Smigiel**

Introduced and read first time: February 17, 2005

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Wildlife - Hunting Restrictions**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a person in Dorchester County to hunt deer on
 4 Sundays on private property with a bow and arrow during certain months;
 5 prohibiting a person, while hunting any bird or mammal, from shooting or
 6 discharging any firearm or other deadly weapon within a certain distance of a
 7 church; and generally relating to restrictions on hunting.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 9 Article - Natural Resources
 10 Section 10-410(a) and (g)
 11 Annotated Code of Maryland
 12 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 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 10-410.

17 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a
 18 person may not hunt any game bird or mammal on Sundays.

19 (2) The following persons may hunt the specified game birds and
 20 mammals on Sundays:

21 (i) A person using State certified raptors to hunt game birds or
 22 mammals during open season;

23 (ii) An unarmed person participating in an organized fox chase to
 24 chase foxes; [and]

25 (iii) Provided that the provisions of § 10-906(b)(3) of this title are
 26 met, a person:

1 1. Using a regulated shooting ground under § 10-906 of this
2 title to hunt the following pen-reared game birds:

3 A. Pheasants;

4 B. Bobwhite quail;

5 C. Chukar partridge;

6 D. Hungarian partridge;

7 E. Tower released flighted mallard ducks; and

8 F. Turkey on a regulated shooting ground that was permitted
9 to release turkey before September 1, 1992; and

10 2. Having the written permission of the owner of the land or
11 other person designated by the owner of the land, if the land is owned or leased by a
12 person other than the person hunting on Sundays; AND

13 (IV) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF § 10-411 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN
14 DORCHESTER COUNTY, A PERSON HUNTING DEER ON PRIVATE PROPERTY WITH A
15 BOW AND ARROW DURING OPEN SEASON IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

16 (3) Provided that the provisions of § 10-415 of this title are met and
17 subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, the Department may allow a person to
18 hunt deer on private property on the first Sunday of:

19 (i) The bow hunting season in November; and

20 (ii) The deer firearms season.

21 (4) The Sunday deer hunting provisions under paragraph (3) of this
22 subsection do not apply:

23 (i) In Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford,
24 Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester counties;
25 and

26 (ii) In Baltimore City.

27 (g) A person, other than the owner or occupant, while hunting for any wild
28 bird or mammal may not shoot or discharge any firearm or other deadly weapon
29 within 150 yards, known as the "safety zone," of a dwelling house, residence,
30 CHURCH, or other building or camp occupied by human beings, or shoot at any wild
31 bird or mammal while it is within this area, without the specific advance permission
32 of the owner or occupant. During any open hunting season, a person, other than the
33 owner or occupant, may not hunt or chase willfully any wild bird or mammal within
34 the safety zone without the specific advance permission of the owner or occupant.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
2 effect October 1, 2005.