

HOUSE BILL 1255

M1, R7

8lr2096

By: **Delegates Bartlett, Elliott, and Stull**
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2008
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Study to Evaluate Strategies to Reduce Deer-Vehicle Collisions**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources, the Department
4 of Transportation, and the Department of State Police to jointly conduct a study
5 to evaluate strategies to reduce deer-vehicle collisions; requiring the study to
6 include certain reviews, evaluations, and examinations; requiring the
7 Departments to use certain personnel and resources in the Departments and
8 prohibiting the Departments from entering into a contract, agreement, or
9 memorandum of understanding with an outside entity; requiring the
10 Departments to jointly submit a report to the General Assembly on or before a
11 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
12 a study to evaluate strategies to reduce deer-vehicle collisions.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That:

15 (a) The Department of Natural Resources, the Department of
16 Transportation, and the Department of State Police shall jointly conduct a study to
17 evaluate strategies to reduce deer-vehicle collisions.

18 (b) The study shall include:

19 (1) a review of existing literature related to deer-vehicle collision
20 reduction strategies;

21 (2) an evaluation of any patterns in the time and location of
22 deer-vehicle collisions;

23 (3) an examination of the benefits and problems related to the use of
24 fences and wildlife crossing structures;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) an examination of the use of wildlife warning reflectors and
2 motorist warning devices;

3 (5) a review of other mitigation strategies that have been used to
4 reduce deer-vehicle collisions; and

5 (6) a review of any other issues that affect the frequency of
6 deer-vehicle collisions.

7 (c) In conducting the study, the Department of Natural Resources, the
8 Department of Transportation, and the Department of State Police may use only
9 personnel and resources in the Departments and may not enter into a contract,
10 agreement, or memorandum of understanding with any outside entity.

11 (d) On or before October 1, 2009, the Department of Natural Resources, the
12 Department of Transportation, and the Department of State Police shall jointly submit
13 a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
14 Government Article, on their findings and recommendations on strategies to reduce
15 deer-vehicle collisions.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 4 months and, at the
18 end of October 31, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
19 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.