

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1218

(Washington County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Washington County - Deer Hunting - Dogs

This bill prohibits a person from killing a dog found pursuing a deer in Washington County.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A person is prohibited from taking a dog into the woods or possessing or controlling a dog in the woods and then using the dog to hunt or pursue a deer. The Department of Natural Resources allows, by regulation, for the use of dogs to aid in the prompt recovery of killed, wounded, or injured deer.

A person is prohibited from killing a dog found pursuing a deer in Baltimore, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Somerset, and Worcester counties.

In all other counties, any Natural Resources police officer, law enforcement officer, or any other person may kill any dog found pursuing any deer, except when the dog is being used to aid in the prompt recovery of killed, wounded, or injured deer.

In Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot, Kent, Anne Arundel, Cecil, Charles, Garrett, St. Mary's, Queen Anne's, Frederick, Carroll, and Calvert counties, dogs that are engaged in fox hunting and who have broken away may not be killed.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Washington County, Department of Natural Resources,
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2009
ncs/ljm

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