

SENATE BILL 68

M2

EMERGENCY BILL
ENROLLED BILL

(5lr1123)

— *Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Environment and Transportation* —

Introduced by ~~Senator Conway~~ Senators Conway and Waugh

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Charles County and St. Mary's County – Deer ~~Hunting~~ – Repeal Management**
3 **Permit**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that the Department of Natural Resources
5 establish a program in certain counties to train rifle shooters to hunt deer for the
6 purpose of controlling the deer population; repealing the requirement that the
7 Department give certain applicants priority to participate in the program; repealing
8 provisions of law that authorize the Department to terminate the program under
9 certain circumstances; repealing a certain reporting requirement; repealing a
10 requirement that the Department adopt certain regulations; repealing provisions of
11 law that authorize a person to hunt deer with a certain shotgun in certain counties
12 during certain months; ~~repealing provisions of law that authorize an individual who~~
13 ~~holds a certain permit in certain counties to hunt with a certain shotgun during deer~~
14 ~~season in certain locations; repealing a prohibition on the Department from~~
15 ~~requiring a certain permit holder to renew a certain permit more frequently than at~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 ~~a certain interval; repealing a prohibition on the Department from authorizing an~~
 2 ~~individual in certain counties to hunt deer on Sundays under a certain permit;~~
 3 authorizing an individual who holds a certain permit to use a certain rifle in certain
 4 locations and under certain conditions in Charles County and St. Mary's County;
 5 ~~providing that a certain permit is valid for a certain period of time each year~~ altering
 6 the circumstances and conditions under which an individual may hunt deer on State
 7 land in Charles County and St. Mary's County under a certain permit; authorizing
 8 the Department to authorize an individual to hunt deer on Sundays in Charles
 9 County and St. Mary's County under certain circumstances; repealing provisions of
 10 law that authorize the Department to terminate a certain deer season under certain
 11 circumstances; repealing provisions of law that authorize the Department to restrict
 12 ~~the lands on which a person may hunt deer under certain circumstances;~~ repealing
 13 a certain termination provision; making this Act an emergency measure; making
 14 stylistic changes; and generally relating to deer hunting in Charles County and St.
 15 Mary's County.

16 BY repealing

17 Article – Natural Resources

18 Section 10–408.2

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

22 Article – Natural Resources

23 Section 10–415

24 Annotated Code of Maryland

25 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

26 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

27 Chapter 574 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2014

28 Section 2

29 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

30 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

31 **Article – Natural Resources**

32 [10–408.2.

33 (a) The Department shall establish a program in Charles County and St. Mary's
 34 County to train rifle shooters to hunt deer for the purpose of controlling the deer population
 35 in Charles County and St. Mary's County.

36 (b) When selecting applicants for participation in the program under subsection
 37 (a) of this section, the Department shall give priority to an applicant who holds a Deer
 38 Management Permit issued by the Department.

1 (c) The Department may terminate the program to protect public safety and
2 welfare.

3 (d) On or before December 1, 2016, the Department shall report to the General
4 Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the
5 implementation of the program.

6 (e) The Department shall adopt regulations to implement this section, including
7 a system for staggering participation in the program.]

8 10-415.

9 (a) [(1)] There are the following 3 seasons to hunt deer:

10 [(i)] (1) Deer bow hunting season;

11 [(ii)] (2) Deer firearms season; and

12 [(iii)] (3) Deer muzzle loader season.

13 [(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may hunt deer
14 with a shotgun approved by the Department from January through March in Charles
15 County and St. Mary's County.]

16 (b) (1) Every person killing a deer shall report with the deer to a designated
17 checking station within 24 hours after killing the deer.

18 (2) Notwithstanding any requirement of law, if the designated checking
19 stations are closed in the county where a person kills a deer, a Natural Resources police
20 officer shall authorize the person to report with the deer to a designated checking station
21 in another county.

22 (c) (1) A person with a hunting license also may purchase bonus deer stamps
23 from the Department.

24 (2) A bonus deer stamp allows a person with the hunting license to hunt 1
25 deer for each stamp purchased in any of the following hunting seasons for deer in the State:

26 (i) Deer bow hunting season;

27 (ii) Deer muzzle loader season; and

28 (iii) Deer firearms season.

(3) An individual who purchases a bonus antlered deer stamp but does not use it during a particular season may use that stamp during any subsequent season in that hunting license year.

(4) The fee for each bonus antlered deer stamp issued in accordance with this subsection shall be \$10.00 for residents and \$25.00 for nonresidents.

(5) The Department may establish by regulation the type and number of deer stamps issued under this subsection if necessary to control the deer harvest in various areas of the State.

(d) (1) In this subsection, "Deer Management Permit" means a permit issued by the Department authorizing the holder to hunt deer outside of deer hunting season for the purpose of preventing damage to crops.

(2) In Charles County and St. Mary's County, an individual who holds a Deer Management Permit may:

(i) Use a shotgun OR BREECH LOADING CENTER FIRED RIFLE approved by the Department to hunt deer throughout deer season in the locations and under the conditions set forth in the permit; and

(ii) ~~Hunt deer on State agricultural crop land located in Charles County and St. Mary's County to the same extent as the person is authorized under the Deer Management Permit to hunt on private land in Charles County and St. Mary's County~~
IF THE INDIVIDUAL LEASES STATE LAND IN CHARLES COUNTY OR ST. MARY'S COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CULTIVATING CROPS, HUNT DEER ON THE LAND LEASED BY THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE LOCATIONS AND UNDER THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE PERMIT.

(3) ~~The Department may not require an individual who holds a Deer Management Permit in Charles County or St. Mary's County to apply for renewal more than once every 3 years. A DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT SHALL BE VALID FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 1 THROUGH JULY 31, OF EACH YEAR.~~

(4) The Department may ~~not~~ authorize an individual in Charles County or St. Mary's County to hunt deer on Sundays under a Deer Management Permit.

(5) (4) To protect public safety and welfare, the Department may:

(i) ~~Terminate the deer hunting season established under subsection (a)(2) of this section; and~~

(ii) ~~Restrict~~ RESTRICT the lands on which an individual may hunt deer UNDER A DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT.

