

HOUSE BILL 788

M2

EMERGENCY BILL

7lr2289
CF 7lr3431

By: **Eastern Shore Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Hunting – Deer Management Permits**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a person to hunt deer under a Deer Management Permit
4 on any Sunday throughout the year, including all deer hunting seasons; altering the
5 application of certain provisions of law governing Deer Management Permits in
6 Charles County and St. Mary's County; making certain conforming changes; altering
7 a certain definition; making a certain stylistic change; making this Act an emergency
8 measure; and generally relating to hunting deer under a Deer Management Permit.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Natural Resources
11 Section 10–410(a)(1) and (2) and 10–415(d)(1) and (2)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article – Natural Resources
16 Section 10–415(d)(3)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Natural Resources**

22 10–410.

23 (a) (1) Except as **OTHERWISE** provided in [paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (6), (7), (8),
24 and (9) of] this subsection, a person may not hunt any game bird or mammal on Sundays.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

5 (ii) An unarmed person participating in an organized fox chase to
6 chase foxes;

7 (iii) Provided that the provisions of § 10–906(b)(3) of this title are
8 met, a person:

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

11 A. Pheasants;

12 B. Bobwhite quail;

13 C. Chukar partridge;

14 D. Hungarian partridge;

15 E. Tower released flighted mallard ducks; and

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

18 2. Having the written permission of the owner of the land or
19 other person designated by the owner of the land, if the land is owned or leased by a person
20 other than the person hunting on Sundays;

21 (iv) Subject to the provisions of § 10–411 of this subtitle, in Calvert,
22 Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Dorchester, Harford, Queen Anne’s, St. Mary’s, Somerset,
23 Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties, a person hunting deer on private property with
24 a bow and arrow or crossbow during open season on the last three Sundays in October and
25 the second Sunday in November;

26 (v) In Calvert County, Caroline County, Carroll County, Charles
27 County, Dorchester County, and St. Mary’s County, a person hunting turkey on private
28 property on any Sunday during the spring turkey hunting season; [and]

29 (vi) In Dorchester County, a person hunting turkey on public land
30 that is designated for hunting by the Department on any Sunday during the spring turkey
31 hunting season; **AND**

1 **(VII) A PERSON HUNTING DEER UNDER A DEER MANAGEMENT**
2 **PERMIT ON ANY SUNDAY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, INCLUDING ALL DEER HUNTING**
3 **SEASONS.**

4 10–415.

5 (d) (1) In this subsection, “Deer Management Permit” means a permit issued
6 by the Department authorizing the holder **OR AN AGENT OF THE HOLDER** to hunt deer
7 outside of deer hunting season for the purpose of preventing damage to crops.

8 (2) **[(i)]** In Charles County and St. Mary’s County, an individual who
9 **[holds] HUNTS DEER UNDER** a Deer Management Permit may:

10 **[1.] (I)** Use a shotgun or breech loading center fired rifle
11 approved by the Department to hunt deer throughout the year, including all deer hunting
12 seasons, in the locations and under the conditions set forth in the permit; and

13 **[2.] (II)** **[If the individual leases] ON** State land in Charles
14 County or St. Mary’s County **LEASED BY THE PERMIT HOLDER** for the purpose of
15 cultivating crops, hunt deer on the **LEASED** land **[leased by the individual]** in the locations
16 and under the conditions set forth in the permit.

17 **[(ii)]** The Department may authorize an individual in Charles County
18 or St. Mary’s County to hunt deer on Sundays under a Deer Management Permit.]

19 (3) To protect public safety and welfare, the Department may restrict the
20 lands on which an individual may hunt deer under a Deer Management Permit.

21 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act is an emergency
22 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
23 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three–fifths of all the members elected to
24 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
25 enacted.