

SENATE BILL 844

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EMERGENCY BILL

7lr3431
CF HB 788

By: **Senator Mathias**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: April 1, 2017

CHAPTER _____

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**

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.



1 10–410.

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

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

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

8 (ii) An unarmed person participating in an organized fox chase to
9 chase foxes;

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

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

14 A. Pheasants;

15 B. Bobwhite quail;

16 C. Chukar partridge;

17 D. Hungarian partridge;

18 E. Tower released flighted mallard ducks; and

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

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

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

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

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

4 (vii) **A PERSON HUNTING DEER UNDER A DEER MANAGEMENT**
5 **PERMIT ON ANY SUNDAY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, INCLUDING ALL DEER HUNTING**
6 **SEASONS.**

7 10-415.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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