By: Delegate Otto
Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 9, 2021

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

Somerset County – Natural Resources – Sunday Hunting

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person in
Somerset County to hunt on private property on each Sunday of the game bird or
game mammal seasons; establishing an exception to the prohibition against the
Department authorizing Sunday hunting on public land for public land in Somerset
County leased to a hunt club; making certain conforming changes; and generally
relating to Sunday hunting in Somerset County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources
Section 10–410(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

10–410.

(a) (1) The Department may allow a person to hunt on each Sunday of the
game bird and game mammal seasons in:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
Strikeout indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by
amendment.
HOUSE BILL 840

1 (i) Allegany County;

2 (ii) Cecil County;

3 (iii) Garrett County;

4 (iv) St. Mary’s County; [and]

5 (v) SOMERSET COUNTY; AND

6 (VI) Washington County.

7 (2) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the
deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in
January, inclusive, in:

8 (i) Carroll County;

9 (ii) Dorchester County; and

10 (iii) Frederick County.

11 (3) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Department
may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from 30
minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. in:

12 1. Kent County; and


14 (ii) The time restrictions under this paragraph do not apply:

15 1. To a participant in a junior deer hunt authorized under
this subtitle;

16 2. On one Sunday designated by the Department during the
deer firearms season;

17 3. In Kent County, on each Sunday during the deer bow
hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season; and

18 4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the
Department during the deer bow hunting season.

19 (4) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer
firearms season:
(i) On each Sunday in:

1. Calvert County;
2. Caroline County;
3. Charles County;
4. Harford County;
5. Queen Anne’s County; AND
6. [Somerset County; and
7.] Worcester County;

(ii) On the first Sunday in:

1. Anne Arundel County; and
2. Talbot County; and

(iii) In Wicomico County, on:

1. The first Sunday; and
2. The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

(5) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer bow hunting season on:

(i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in November in:

1. Calvert County;
2. Caroline County;
3. Charles County;
4. Harford County;
5. Queen Anne’s County;
6. [Somerset County;
7.] Talbot County;

[8.] 7. Wicomico County; and

[9.] 8. Worcester County; and

(ii) The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County.

(6) The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season in:

(i) Calvert County;

(ii) Caroline County;

(iii) Carroll County;

(iv) Charles County;

(v) Dorchester County; and

(vi) Kent County.

(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person with a deer management permit to shoot deer on any Sunday throughout the year in accordance with the terms of the permit.

(8) The Department may allow a person using a State certified raptor to hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the game birds or mammals.

(9) The Department may allow an unarmed person participating in an organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

(10) The Department may allow a person shooting pen–reared game birds or tower–released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting ground in accordance with § 10–906 of this title.

(11) The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or younger to hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department in accordance with this subtitle.

(12) Except as provided in paragraphs (8) through (10) of this subsection and subject to paragraph (7) of this subsection, a person may not hunt on Sunday in:

(i) Baltimore City;
(ii) Baltimore County;
(iii) Howard County; or
(iv) Prince George’s County.

(13) A person may not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

(14) A person may not hunt on public land within the State park system on Sunday.

(15) The Department may not allow a person to hunt on public land designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday except in:

(i) Allegany County;
(ii) Cecil County;
(iii) Garrett County;
(iv) St. Mary’s County;
(v) Washington County;
(vi) Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey hunting season; [and]
(vii) Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive; AND

(viii) Somerset County, on public land leased to a hunt club.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.