

Chapter 684

(House Bill 293)

AN ACT concerning

Natural Resources – Organized Killing Contests – Restriction

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from sponsoring, conducting, or participating in certain organized contests that have the objective of killing certain wildlife for prizes or monetary awards; providing for the construction of this Act; establishing a certain penalty for a violation of this Act; and generally relating to restrictions on organized killing contests.

BY adding to

Article – Natural Resources

Section 10–427

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

10–427.

(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT SPONSOR, CONDUCT, OR PARTICIPATE IN A CONTEST ORGANIZED IN THE STATE THAT HAS THE OBJECTIVE OF KILLING A COYOTE, FOX, OR RACCOON FOR PRIZES OR MONETARY REWARDS.

(B) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT:

(1) A LANDOWNER OR THE LANDOWNER’S AGENT OR LESSEE FROM KILLING COYOTES, FOXES, OR RACCOONS ON PROPERTY OF THE LANDOWNER, PROVIDED THAT THE KILLING IS NOT PART OF AN ORGANIZED CONTEST; OR

(2) LAWFUL DOG TRAINING OR DOG PERFORMANCE COMPETITIONS.

(C) A PERSON IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF ~~\$25~~ \$50 FOR EACH COYOTE, FOX, OR RACCOON KILLED IN VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

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

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2021.