AN ACT concerning Natural Resources – Female Deer Hunting Contests – Authorization

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person, for the management of the deer population in the State, sponsor, conduct, or participate in a contest in the State that has the objective of killing a female deer for monetary rewards; and generally relating to doe hunting.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources
Section 10–427
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2021 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) (1) Subject to [subsection (b)] PARAGRAPH (2) of this [section] SUBSECTION, 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)] (2) This [section] SUBSECTION may not be construed to prohibit:

[(1)] (I) 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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(2) \(\text{II}\) Lawful dog training or dog performance competitions.

[(c)] (3) A person is subject to a fine of $50 for each coyote, fox, or raccoon killed in violation of [subsection (a)] PARAGRAPH (1) of this [section] SUBSECTION.

(B) (1) TO MANAGE THE DEER POPULATION IN THE STATE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO SPONSOR, CONDUCT, OR PARTICIPATE IN A CONTEST IN THE STATE THAT HAS THE OBJECTIVE OF KILLING A FEMALE DEER FOR MONETARY REWARDS.

(2) REWARDS AWARDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE LIMITED TO THREE INDIVIDUALS PER CONTEST.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.