

SENATE BILL 582

M2, M1

2lr2657
CF 2lr2660

By: **Senator Bailey**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Recreation on Private Land – Hunting**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that if a landowner directly invites or permits without charge
4 an individual to use the landowner’s real property for hunting, the invited or
5 permitted individual impliedly consents to adhere to every law, observe every safety
6 precaution and practice, take every precaution against fire, and assume all
7 responsibility and liability for the individual’s safety and property while hunting on
8 the landowner’s real property; and generally relating to hunting on private land.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Natural Resources
11 Section 5–1109
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Natural Resources**

17 5–1109.

18 (a) **(1)** If a landowner agrees to the **PUBLIC** use of a defined part of the
19 landowner’s real property for the use of cross–country skiing, for the use of an OHV, or for
20 hunting, any person who uses the part of the real property impliedly consents to adhere to
21 every law, to observe every safety precaution and practice, to take every precaution against
22 fire, and to assume all responsibility and liability for the person’s safety and property while
23 cross–country skiing, using an OHV, or hunting on the landowner’s real property.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) IF A LANDOWNER DIRECTLY INVITES OR PERMITS WITHOUT**
2 **CHARGE AN INDIVIDUAL TO USE THE LANDOWNER’S REAL PROPERTY FOR HUNTING,**
3 **THE INVITED OR PERMITTED INDIVIDUAL WHO USES THE REAL PROPERTY FOR**
4 **HUNTING IMPLIEDLY CONSENTS TO ADHERE TO EVERY LAW, TO OBSERVE EVERY**
5 **SAFETY PRECAUTION AND PRACTICE, TO TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION AGAINST FIRE,**
6 **AND TO ASSUME ALL RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL’S**
7 **SAFETY AND PROPERTY WHILE HUNTING ON THE LANDOWNER’S REAL PROPERTY.**

8 (b) The provisions of § 5–1108(b) and (c) of this subtitle apply when a landowner
9 leases any defined part of the landowner’s real property for the use of cross–country skiing,
10 for the use of an OHV, or for hunting.

11 (c) The Department shall adopt regulations to allow cross–country skiing, OHV
12 use, or hunting **BY THE PUBLIC** on those defined parts of a landowner’s real property on
13 which cross–country skiing, OHV use, or hunting **BY THE PUBLIC** is allowed under this
14 section.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
16 1, 2022.