

HOUSE BILL 934

M2

3lr2691
CF SB 779

By: **Delegates Hutchinson, Adams, Anderton, and Hartman**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 12, 2023

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – ~~Female~~ Antlerless Deer Hunting Contests Programs –**
3 **Authorization**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing ~~the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person,~~
5 ~~for the management of the deer population in the State, to sponsor, conduct, or~~
6 ~~participate~~ an individual to sell, offer for sale, barter, or exchange an antlerless deer
7 acquired as the result of participation in a certain ~~contest~~ program in the State that
8 has the objective of harvesting ~~a female~~ an antlerless deer; and generally relating to
9 the antlerless deer hunting.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Natural Resources
12 Section ~~10-427~~ 10-404(e)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Natural Resources**

18 ~~10-427.~~

19 ~~(a) (1) Subject to [subsection (b)] PARAGRAPH (2) of this [section]~~
20 ~~SUBSECTION, a person may not sponsor, conduct, or participate in a contest organized in~~

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 ~~the State that has the objective of killing a coyote, fox, or raccoon for prizes or monetary~~
 2 ~~rewards.~~

3 ~~[(b)] (2) This [section] SUBSECTION may not be construed to prohibit:~~

4 ~~[(1)] (I) A landowner or the landowner's agent or lessee from killing~~
 5 ~~coyotes, foxes, or raccoons on property of the landowner, provided that the killing is not~~
 6 ~~part of an organized contest; [or]~~

7 ~~[(2)] (II) Lawful dog training or dog performance competitions; OR~~

8 ~~[(3)] (III) A CONTEST AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS~~
 9 ~~SECTION.~~

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

12 ~~(B) (1) TO MANAGE THE DEER POPULATION IN THE STATE, THE~~
 13 ~~DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO SPONSOR, CONDUCT, OR PARTICIPATE IN~~
 14 ~~AN EXISTING, RANDOM CONTEST IN THE STATE HELD DURING THE MONTH OF~~
 15 ~~JANUARY THAT HAS THE OBJECTIVE OF HARVESTING A FEMALE DEER.~~

16 ~~(2) RANDOM LOTTERY AWARDS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS~~
 17 ~~SUBSECTION SHALL BE LIMITED TO THREE INDIVIDUALS PER CONTEST.~~

18 10-404.

19 (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection or §
 20 10-512(a)(2)(ii) of this title, a person may not sell, offer for sale, barter, or exchange, at any
 21 time within the State any game bird or game mammal taken from the wild, in the State or
 22 in another state, territory, or country.

23 (2) The prohibitions of paragraph (1) of this subsection do not apply to
 24 [the]:

25 (i) [Meat] THE MEAT, pelt, carcass, or mounted specimen of any
 26 beaver, coyote, fisher, fox, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, otter, raccoon, skunk, or
 27 long-tailed weasel legally taken by the person;

28 (ii) [Hide] THE HIDE, hair, tail, or feet, excluding a mounted
 29 specimen of deer, squirrel, or rabbit legally acquired;

30 (iii) [Feathers] THE FEATHERS, skin, or feet, excluding a mounted
 31 specimen of upland and forest game birds legally acquired;

1 (iv) Except as prohibited by federal law, THE feathers of wetland
2 game birds legally acquired; [or]

3 (v) [Antlers] THE ANTLERS of deer legally acquired in another
4 state and manufactured into an article of commerce in another state; OR

5 (VI) AN ANTLERLESS DEER ACQUIRED BY AN INDIVIDUAL
6 PARTICIPATING IN AN EXISTING RAFFLE PROGRAM IN THE STATE HELD DURING THE
7 MONTH OF JANUARY THAT HAS THE OBJECTIVE OF HARVESTING AN ANTLERLESS
8 DEER.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2023.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.