

# SENATE BILL 440

Q3

4lr2428  
CF HB 447

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By: **Senators Elfreth, Bailey, Corderman, Hester, Jennings, and Salling**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2024

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Income Tax Credit – Venison Donation**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing an individual, subject to certain requirements and limitations,  
4 to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain qualified expenses if the  
5 individual harvests an antlerless deer and donates the deer meat to certain  
6 organizations; and generally relating to a State income tax credit for the donation of  
7 deer meat.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
10 Section 5–634  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 BY adding to  
14 Article – Tax – General  
15 Section 10–746  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

21 5–634.

22 (a) In this section, “person” has the meaning stated in § 21–322 of the Health –  
23 General Article.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) The limitation on liability provided for in subsection (c) of this section does not  
2 apply to any person who:

3 (1) Donates food to a nonprofit corporation, organization, or association  
4 that sells or offers for sale any donated food;

5 (2) Prepares donated food for use or distribution by a nonprofit corporation,  
6 organization, or association that sells or offers for sale any donated food; or

7 (3) Serves donated food distributed by a nonprofit corporation,  
8 organization, or association that sells or offers for sale any donated food.

9 (c) Unless the act or omission amounts to gross negligence or willful and wanton  
10 misconduct, a person is not civilly liable for any act or omission that affects the nature, age,  
11 condition, or packaging of the donated food if the person in good faith:

12 (1) Donates food for use or distribution by a nonprofit corporation,  
13 organization, or association;

14 (2) Prepares donated food for use or distribution by a nonprofit corporation,  
15 organization, or association;

16 (3) Serves donated food distributed by a nonprofit corporation,  
17 organization, or association; or

18 (4) Dispenses donated food distributed by a nonprofit corporation,  
19 organization, or association.

## 20 Article – Tax – General

### 21 10-746.

22 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “QUALIFIED EXPENSES” MEANS EXPENSES INCURRED  
23 TO BUTCHER AND PROCESS AN ANTLERLESS DEER FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

24 (B) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO  
25 HUNTS AND HARVESTS AN ANTLERLESS DEER MAY CLAIM A CREDIT AGAINST THE  
26 STATE INCOME TAX FOR UP TO \$75 OF THE QUALIFIED EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE  
27 INDIVIDUAL IF:

28 (1) THE HUNTING AND HARVESTING OF THE DEER COMPLIES WITH  
29 STATE HUNTING LAWS AND REGULATIONS; AND

30 (2) THE INDIVIDUAL DONATES THE PROCESSED DEER MEAT TO A  
31 VENISON DONATION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS  
32 EXEMPT FROM TAXATION UNDER § 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.

1           **(C) (1) FOR ANY TAXABLE YEAR, THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CREDITS THAT**  
2 **AN INDIVIDUAL MAY CLAIM UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT EXCEED \$600, UNLESS**  
3 **THE INDIVIDUAL HARVESTED EACH DEER FOR WHICH THE CREDITS ARE CLAIMED**  
4 **IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT.**

5           **(2) THE UNUSED AMOUNT OF THE CREDIT FOR ANY TAXABLE YEAR**  
6 **MAY NOT BE CARRIED OVER TO ANY OTHER TAXABLE YEAR.**

7           **(D) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO CLAIMS THE CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL**  
8 **HAVE THE IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY DESCRIBED UNDER § 5-634 OF THE COURTS**  
9 **ARTICLE FOR DONATED FOOD.**

10           **(E) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 EACH YEAR, EACH VENISON DONATION**  
11 **PROGRAM THAT ACCEPTS A DONATION UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL REPORT TO THE**  
12 **COMPTROLLER THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING**  
13 **TAXABLE YEAR:**

14           **(1) THE NAME AND HOME ADDRESS OF EACH DONOR WHO INTENDED**  
15 **TO CLAIM THE INCOME TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION; AND**

16           **(2) THE NUMBER OF DEER DONATED BY EACH DONOR WHO INTENDED**  
17 **TO CLAIM THE INCOME TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION.**

18           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
19 1, 2024, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023, but  
20 before January 1, 2029. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of  
21 June 30, 2029, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
22 abrogated and of no further force and effect.