

SENATE BILL 643

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6lr2993
CF HB 1063

By: **Senator Bailey**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Hunting – Management**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that the Department of Natural Resources may authorize the
4 reduction of the deer population on certain property with deer damage using certain
5 methods; altering the time restrictions for Sunday deer hunting in certain counties
6 during deer firearms season; ~~repealing the prohibition against hunting migratory~~
7 ~~game birds on Sundays and authorizing the Department to allow Sunday hunting~~
8 ~~for migratory game birds, subject to a certain requirement; repealing certain time~~
9 ~~restrictions that apply to the hunting of game birds and mammals on certain~~
10 ~~Sundays on private property in Wicomico County; authorizing the Department to~~
11 ~~allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer bow hunting season in~~
12 ~~Baltimore City; repealing certain provisions of law governing Sunday hunting on a~~
13 ~~county-by-county basis and authorizing the Department to adopt regulations~~
14 ~~allowing Sunday hunting during game bird and game mammal seasons, subject to a~~
15 ~~certain standard; requiring the Department to establish certain procedures for a~~
16 ~~county to request changes to Sunday hunting regulations; and generally relating to~~
17 hunting management.

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Natural Resources
20 Section ~~10–206 and 10–410(a)~~, 10–410(a), and 10–906(b)(3)(i)
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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 Article – Natural Resources
 2 Section 10–410(a) and 10–906(b)(3)(i)
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
 5 (As enacted by Section 1 of this Act)

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

8 **Article – Natural Resources**

9 10–206.

10 (A) The Department may reduce the wildlife population in any county, election
 11 district, or other identifiable area of the State after a thorough investigation reveals that
 12 protected wildlife is seriously injurious to agricultural or other interests in the affected
 13 area. The method of reducing the wildlife population is at the Department’s discretion,
 14 except that trapping is preferred whenever feasible. The Department shall dispose of
 15 wildlife taken pursuant to the provisions of this section as the Department deems
 16 advisable.

17 (B) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “DEER DAMAGE” INCLUDES:

18 (I) WIDESPREAD DAMAGE CAUSED BY DEER, INCLUDING THE
 19 ELIMINATION OF FOREST UNDERSTORY, TREE REGENERATION, AND NATIVE
 20 PLANTS; AND

21 (II) THE DESTRUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL CROPS ~~OR~~
 22 ~~LANDSCAPING, INCLUDING ORNAMENTAL LANDSCAPING,~~ CAUSED BY DEER.

23 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY AUTHORIZE THE REDUCTION OF THE
 24 DEER POPULATION ON ANY SINGLE, CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY OF AT LEAST 10 ACRES
 25 WHERE THE DEPARTMENT HAS DOCUMENTED DEER DAMAGE.

26 (3) (I) THE METHOD OF REDUCING THE DEER POPULATION:

27 1. IS AT THE DEPARTMENT’S DISCRETION; AND

28 2. SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS
 29 PARAGRAPH, MAY INCLUDE THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO A PROPERTY OWNER, OR
 30 THE PROPERTY OWNER’S EMPLOYEE, LESSEE, OR AGENT, TO SHOOT DEER ON THE
 31 PROPERTY ON SUNDAYS.

32 (II) A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I)2 OF THIS
 33 PARAGRAPH ~~SHALL~~:

1 **1. MAY NOT AUTHORIZE HUNTING ON SUNDAYS IN:**

2 **A. BALTIMORE CITY;**

3 **B. BALTIMORE COUNTY;**

4 **C. HOWARD COUNTY; OR**

5 **D. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY; AND**

6 **2. SHALL PROHIBIT DEER HUNTING ON SUNDAYS**
7 **DURING DEER FIREARMS SEASON WITHIN ~~25~~ 150 YARDS OF A DEPARTMENT TRAIL**
8 **DESIGNATED FOR BICYCLING, HIKING, EQUESTRIAN USE, OR OTHER ACTIVE OR**
9 **PASSIVE RECREATIONAL USE.**

10 **(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

11 **(I) MAP AREAS OF THE STATE TO WHICH A PERMIT MAY APPLY**
12 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION; AND**

13 **(II) MAKE THE MAPS READILY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.**

14 10-410.

15 (a) (1) (i) The Department may allow a person to hunt on each Sunday of
16 the game bird and game mammal seasons in:

17 1. Allegany County;

18 2. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Calvert
19 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

20 3. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Caroline
21 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

22 4. Cecil County;

23 5. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Charles
24 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

25 6. Subject to subparagraph (iv) of this paragraph, Dorchester
26 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

27 7. Garrett County;

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1 8. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Queen
2 Anne's County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

3 9. St. Mary's County;

4 10. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset
5 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

6 11. Washington County;

7 12. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Worcester
8 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.; and

9 13. ~~Subject to subparagraph (v) of this paragraph,~~ Wicomico
10 ~~County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.~~

11 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 and 12 of this
12 paragraph do not apply:

13 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

14 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
15 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

16 (iii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)2, 3, 5, and 8 of this
17 paragraph do not apply:

18 1. On each Sunday during the deer firearms season;

19 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
20 Sundays in November during the deer bow hunting season; and

21 3. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.

22 (iv) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)6 of this paragraph
23 do not apply:

24 1. On each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from the first
25 Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January, inclusive; and

26 2. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.

27 ~~(v) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)13 of this~~
28 ~~paragraph do not apply:~~

29 ~~1. A. On the first Sunday of the deer firearms season; and~~

~~**B. ON THE REMAINING SUNDAYS OF THE DEER FIREARMS SEASON, FOR WHICH THE TIME RESTRICTIONS SHALL BE FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL 10:30 A.M. AND FROM 3:00 P.M. UNTIL SUNSET; AND**~~

~~**2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.**~~

(2) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January, inclusive, in:

(i) Carroll County; and

(ii) Frederick County.

(3) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. in:

1. Kent County;

2. Montgomery County; and

3. Talbot County.

(ii) The time restrictions under this paragraph do not apply:

1. To a participant in a junior deer hunt authorized under this subtitle;

2. **A.** On one Sunday designated by the Department during the deer firearms season; **AND**

B. ON IN KENT COUNTY AND TALBOT COUNTY, ON THE REMAINING SUNDAYS OF THE DEER FIREARMS SEASON, FOR WHICH THE TIME RESTRICTIONS SHALL BE FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL 10:30 A.M. AND FROM 3:00 P.M. UNTIL SUNSET;

3. In Kent County, on each Sunday during the deer bow hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season;

4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the Department during the deer bow hunting season; and

1 5. In Talbot County, on the last three Sundays in October
2 and the first two Sundays in November during the bow hunting season.

3 (4) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer
4 firearms season:

5 (i) On each Sunday in Harford County; and

6 (ii) On the first Sunday in Anne Arundel County.

7 (5) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer bow
8 hunting season on:

9 (i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in
10 November in Harford County; and

11 (ii) The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County.

12 (6) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER ON
13 EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON IN BALTIMORE CITY.

14 (7) The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each Sunday of
15 the spring turkey hunting season in:

16 (i) Carroll County;

17 (ii) Kent County; and

18 (iii) Talbot County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

19 ~~(7)~~ (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the
20 Department may allow a ~~person with~~ [a]:

21 (I) A person with a deer management permit **ISSUED UNDER §**
22 **10-206(A) OF THIS TITLE** to shoot deer on any Sunday throughout the year in accordance
23 with the terms of the permit; **AND**

24 (II) A EXCEPT IN BALTIMORE CITY, BALTIMORE COUNTY,
25 HOWARD COUNTY, AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, A PERSON WITH A DEER
26 DAMAGE PERMIT ISSUED UNDER § 10-206(B) OF THIS TITLE TO SHOOT DEER ON ANY
27 SUNDAY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE
28 PERMIT.

29 ~~(8)~~ (9) The Department may allow a person using a State certified
30 raptor to hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the
31 game birds or mammals.

1 ~~(9)~~ **(10)** The Department may allow an unarmed person participating in
2 an organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

3 ~~(10)~~ **(11)** The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared game
4 birds or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting
5 ground in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

6 ~~(11)~~ **(12)** The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or
7 younger to hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department
8 in accordance with this subtitle.

9 ~~(12)~~ **(13)** Except as provided in paragraphs ~~(8)~~ **(9)** through ~~(10)~~ **(11)** of this
10 subsection and subject to paragraph ~~(7)~~ **(8)** of this subsection, a person may not hunt on
11 Sunday in:

- 12 (i) Baltimore City;
- 13 (ii) Baltimore County;
- 14 (iii) Howard County; or
- 15 (iv) Prince George's County.

16 ~~(13)~~ **(14)** ~~(H)~~ [A person may not] ~~SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (H)~~
17 ~~OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO~~ hunt migratory
18 game birds on Sunday.

19 ~~(H)~~ ~~THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALLOW THE FOLLOWING~~
20 ~~PERSONS TO HUNT MIGRATORY CANADA GEESE (ATLANTIC POPULATION) ON~~
21 ~~SUNDAYS DURING THE OPEN SEASON:~~

- 22 ~~1.~~ ~~JUNIOR HUNTERS;~~
- 23 ~~2.~~ ~~SENIOR HUNTERS;~~
- 24 ~~3.~~ ~~APPRENTICE HUNTERS; AND~~
- 25 ~~4.~~ ~~FULL-TIME STUDENTS WHO HOLD A HUNTING~~
26 ~~LICENSE.~~

27 ~~(14)~~ **(15)** A person may not hunt on public land within the State park
28 system on Sunday.

1 ~~(15)~~ **(16)** (i) The Department may not allow a person to hunt on public
2 land designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday except in:

3 1. Allegany County;

4 2. Cecil County;

5 3. Garrett County;

6 4. St. Mary's County;

7 5. Washington County;

8 6. Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey
9 hunting season;

10 7. Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in
11 October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive;

12 8. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset
13 County, on public land leased to a hunt club from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30
14 a.m.;

15 9. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Worcester
16 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.; and

17 10. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Wicomico
18 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

19 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)8 and 9 of this
20 paragraph do not apply:

21 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

22 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
23 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

24 (iii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 of this paragraph
25 do not apply:

26 1. **A.** On the first Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

27 **B. ON THE REMAINING SUNDAYS OF THE DEER**
28 **FIREARMS SEASON, FOR WHICH THE TIME RESTRICTIONS SHALL BE FROM 30**
29 **MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL 10:30 A.M. AND FROM 3:00 P.M. UNTIL SUNSET;**
30 **AND**

1 12. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Worcester
2 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.; and

3 13. ~~Subject to subparagraph (v) of this paragraph, Wicomico~~
4 ~~County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.~~

5 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 and 12 of this
6 paragraph do not apply:

7 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

8 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
9 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

10 (iii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)2, 3, 5, and 8 of this
11 paragraph do not apply:

12 1. On each Sunday during the deer firearms season;

13 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
14 Sundays in November during the deer bow hunting season; and

15 3. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.

16 (iv) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)6 of this paragraph
17 do not apply:

18 1. On each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from the first
19 Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January, inclusive; and

20 2. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.

21 ~~(v) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)(13) of this~~
22 ~~paragraph do not apply:~~

23 ~~1. A. On the first Sunday of the deer firearms season; and~~

24 ~~B. On the remaining Sundays of the deer firearms season, for~~
25 ~~which the time restrictions shall be from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. and~~
26 ~~from 3:00 p.m. until sunset; and~~

27 ~~2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two~~
28 ~~Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.~~

1 (2) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the
2 deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in
3 January, inclusive, in:

4 (i) Carroll County; and

5 (ii) Frederick County.

6 (3) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Department
7 may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from 30
8 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. in:

9 1. Kent County;

10 2. Montgomery County; and

11 3. Talbot County.

12 (ii) The time restrictions under this paragraph do not apply:

13 1. To a participant in a junior deer hunt authorized under
14 this subtitle;

15 2. A. On one Sunday designated by the Department
16 during the deer firearms season; and

17 B. ~~On~~ In Kent County and Talbot County, on the remaining
18 Sundays of the deer firearms season, for which the time restrictions shall be from 30
19 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. until sunset;

20 3. In Kent County, on each Sunday during the deer bow
21 hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season;

22 4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the
23 Department during the deer bow hunting season; and

24 5. In Talbot County, on the last three Sundays in October
25 and the first two Sundays in November during the bow hunting season.

26 (4) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer
27 firearms season:

28 (i) On each Sunday in Harford County; and

29 (ii) On the first Sunday in Anne Arundel County.

1 (5) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer bow
2 hunting season on:

3 (i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in
4 November in Harford County; and

5 (ii) The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County.

6 (6) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the
7 deer bow hunting season in Baltimore City.

8 (7) The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each Sunday of
9 the spring turkey hunting season in:

10 (i) Carroll County;

11 (ii) Kent County; and

12 (iii) Talbot County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.]

13 (1) (I) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE
14 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS ALLOWING PERSONS TO HUNT ON
15 SUNDAYS DURING THE GAME BIRD AND GAME MAMMAL SEASONS.

16 (II) THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION
17 SHALL AT A MINIMUM ALLOW SUNDAY HUNTING ON THE HOURS AND DAYS
18 AUTHORIZED FOR SUNDAY HUNTING BY SPECIES, HUNTING SEASON, AND COUNTY
19 ON JUNE 30, 2027.

20 (III) 1. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH STANDARD
21 PROCEDURES FOR A COUNTY TO REQUEST CHANGES TO THE SUNDAY HUNTING
22 REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE COUNTY.

23 2. THE PROCEDURES SHALL, AT A MINIMUM:

24 A. REQUIRE THE COUNTY TO PROVIDE THE
25 DEPARTMENT WITH A LETTER FROM THE COUNTY'S LEGISLATIVE BODY, COUNTY
26 EXECUTIVE, OR LOCAL DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH
27 SUPPORTS THE PROPOSED CHANGES; AND

28 B. PROVIDE FOR CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL
29 STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING NONHUNTERS.

1 **3. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH GUIDELINES**
 2 **DESCRIBING THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBPARAGRAPH TO THE**
 3 **DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.**

4 ~~[(7)]~~**[(8)](2)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the
 5 Department may allow ~~a person with~~:

6 (i) A person with a deer management permit issued under §
 7 10-206(a) of this title to shoot deer on any Sunday throughout the year in accordance with
 8 the terms of the permit; and

9 (ii) ~~A~~ Except in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County,
 10 and Prince George's County, a person with a deer damage permit issued under § 10-206(b)
 11 of this title to shoot deer on any Sunday throughout the year in accordance with the terms
 12 of the permit.

13 ~~[(8)]~~**[(9)](3)** The Department may allow a person using a State certified
 14 raptor to hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the
 15 game birds or mammals.

16 ~~[(9)]~~**[(10)](4)** The Department may allow an unarmed person
 17 participating in an organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

18 ~~[(10)]~~**[(11)](5)** The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared
 19 game birds or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated
 20 shooting ground in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

21 ~~[(11)]~~**[(12)](6)** The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old
 22 or younger to hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the
 23 Department in accordance with this subtitle.

24 ~~[(12)]~~**[(13)](7)** Except as provided in paragraphs ~~[(9)]~~**[(9)](3)** through
 25 ~~[(10)]~~**[(11)](5)** of this subsection and subject to paragraph ~~[(7)]~~**[(8)](2)** of this subsection,
 26 a person may not hunt on Sunday in:

27 (i) Baltimore City;

28 (ii) Baltimore County;

29 (iii) Howard County; or

30 (iv) Prince George's County.

31 ~~[(13)]~~**[(14)](8)** ~~(i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the~~
 32 ~~Department may allow a person to hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.~~ A person may
 33 not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

1 (ii) ~~The Department shall allow the following persons to hunt~~
2 ~~migratory Canada geese (Atlantic population) on Sundays during the open season.~~

3 ~~1. Junior hunters;~~

4 ~~2. Senior hunters;~~

5 ~~3. Apprentice hunters; and~~

6 ~~4. Full-time students who hold a hunting license.~~

7 ~~[(14)]~~[(15)] (9) A person may not hunt on public land within the State
8 park system on Sunday.

9 ~~[(15)]~~ (16) (i) The Department may not allow a person to hunt on public
10 land designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday except in:

11 1. Allegany County;

12 2. Cecil County;

13 3. Garrett County;

14 4. St. Mary's County;

15 5. Washington County;

16 6. Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey
17 hunting season;

18 7. Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in
19 October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive;

20 8. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset
21 County, on public land leased to a hunt club from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30
22 a.m.;

23 9. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Worcester
24 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.; and

25 10. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Wicomico
26 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

27 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)8 and 9 of this
28 paragraph do not apply:

- 1 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and
- 2 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
- 3 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

4 (iii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 of this paragraph

5 do not apply:

- 6 1. A. On the first Sunday of the deer firearms season; and
- 7 B. On the remaining Sundays of the deer firearms season, for
- 8 which the time restrictions shall be from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. and
- 9 from 3:00 p.m. until sunset; and

- 10 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
- 11 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.]

12 10-906.

13 (b) (3) (i) As part of the application for a regulated shooting ground permit,

14 a person may apply to the Department for authorization to allow hunting on Sunday as

15 provided under [§ 10-410(a)(11)] § 10-410(A)(5) of this title.

16 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, ~~That, on or before December 1,~~

17 ~~2029, the Department of Natural Resources shall:~~

18 ~~(1) report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the~~

19 ~~State Government Article, on the effectiveness of this Act on deer management and~~

20 ~~balancing stakeholder interests; and~~

21 ~~(2) include in the report input from all relevant stakeholders~~ That:

22 (a) The Department of Natural Resources shall, in accordance with this section,

23 report annually on the impact of this Act on deer management in the State, the safety of

24 hunters and other individuals who engage in outdoor recreation, and the balancing of

25 stakeholder interests.

26 (b) Reports made under this section shall include:

27 (1) a summary of any regulations adopted under § 10-410(a)(1) of the

28 Natural Resources Article, as enacted by Section 2 of this Act, during the reporting period;

29 (2) data regarding hunting related accidents;

30 (3) summaries of complaints received from any source regarding conflicts

31 between hunters and other individuals engaging in outdoor recreation; and

1 (4) any recommendations from the Department on strategies to improve
 2 safety or decrease conflicts.

3 (c) On or before December 1, 2027, December 1, 2028, and December 1, 2029, the
 4 Department shall, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, submit
 5 the reports required under this section to the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and
 6 the Environment and the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

7 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not be construed
 8 to authorize the Department of Natural Resources to allow Sunday hunting in Baltimore
 9 County, Howard County, or Prince George’s County:

10 (1) (i) except as provided in Section 10–410(a)(9) through (11) of the
 11 Natural Resources Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act; and

12 (ii) subject to Section 10–410(a)(8) of the Natural Resources Article,
 13 as enacted by Section 1 of this Act; or

14 (2) (i) except as provided in Section 10–410(a)(3) through (5) of the
 15 Natural Resources Article, as enacted by Section 2 of this Act; and

16 (ii) subject to Section 10–410(a)(2) of the Natural Resources Article,
 17 as enacted by Section 2 of this Act.

18 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take
 19 effect July 1, 2027. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June
 20 30, 2030, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
 21 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

22 SECTION ~~5~~ 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in
 23 Section ~~4~~ 5 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.