



MARYLAND
HORSE
COUNCIL

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One Common Bond: The Horse
One Common Voice: The Horse Council

Testimony of the Maryland Horse Council on
HB 485 - Montgomery County - Deer Hunting - Sundays MC 25-22
Favorable

Hearing before the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee,
March 22, 2022

The Maryland Horse Council (MHC) is a membership-based, umbrella trade association of the entire horse industry in Maryland. Our membership includes horse farms and stables, horse-related businesses, and horse owners, representing all facets of the Maryland equestrian community, from the owners of race horses to the owners of trail horses or just beloved retired companion horses. As such, we represent over 30,000 Marylanders.

As the Committee is likely aware, MHC has opposed Sunday hunting for many years. Nevertheless, in the spirit of compromise, MHC introduced a bill in 2016 (SB 1061), that would have allowed Sunday hunting on all Sunday mornings in the firearms season until 10:30 am, statewide. That bill did not pass. Nevertheless, in the interest of putting this issue to rest in Montgomery County, the Maryland Horse Council supported HB 310 in 2017, which established the “hunting until 10:30 am on Sundays” rule in Montgomery County. We also supported similar bills for Kent and Wicomico, which passed and are in effect.

We believe the “10:30 am rule” is working well in Montgomery, and as this bill is a technical correction that does not increase Sunday hunting, we support its passage.

Respectfully submitted,

The Maryland Horse Council
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