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February 18, 2022

To: House Environment & Transportation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of HB 556 – Queen Anne's County – Natural Resources – Sunday Hunting

On behalf of our member families in Queen Anne's County, I submit this written testimony in support of HB 556 legislation that would add Queen Annes County to a list of counties that allow a person to hunt any game bird or game mammal on a Sunday during the open season for that game bird or game mammal. Current counties that allow this are: Allegany, Cecil, Garrett, St. Mary's and Washington.

Crop damage created by deer is nearly \$50 per acre today. These numbers are even higher in On the Eastern Shore. DNR reports show that more than 10% of the deer harvested this hunting season were done on Sundays. Allowing Queen Anne's County to have these additional Sunday hunting dates will allow the hunters to help address the overpopulation of deer in Queen Anne's County.

MDFB Policy: We support statewide Sunday hunting on private lands.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS HB 556 AND ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT.

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