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January 31, 2022

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB 170 – CALVERT COUNTY – SUNDAY HUNTING - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the National Shooting Sports Foundation (“NSSF”), I submit these comments in support for House Bill 170 (“HB 170”) by Delegate Clark. HB 170 would authorize the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person in Somerset County to hunt on each Sunday of the game bird and game mammal seasons in Calvert County.

As the trade association for America’s firearms, ammunition, hunting, and recreational shooting sports industry, NSSF seeks to promote, protect, and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. We have a membership of more than 9,000 manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, and shooting ranges. Our manufacturer members make the firearms used by law-abiding Maryland sportsmen and women, the U.S. military, and law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

This important piece of legislation will expand current Sunday hunting opportunities for sportsmen, women, and children in Calvert County. Sunday hunting is an excellent vehicle to recruit new hunter-conservationists. Hunting, fishing, and other forms of outdoor recreation have proven physical, psychological, and educational benefits for our nation’s young people. Due to the greater prevalence of academic, athletic, and other competing activities that take place on Saturday, it is likely that allowing Sunday hunting will more than double the number of days children can hunt.

The passage of House Bill 170 will help ensure Maryland’s strong hunting heritage can be enjoyed and passed on to future generations of hunters and conservationists, and it is for these reasons, the National Shooting Sports Foundation supports the passage of Delegate Clark’s House Bill 170.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. W. Santos", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Trevor W. Santos