



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

March 9, 2022

To: House Environment & Transportation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of HB 1279 – Sunday Hunting and Archery Hunting Safety Zones - Statewide Authorization and Establishment

On behalf of our member families in Maryland, I submit this written testimony in support of HB 1279, legislation that authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person to hunt on Sundays on private property statewide and any public land in the State designated for hunting by the Department. It also establishes a uniform statewide safety zone for archery hunters at 50 feet.

Crop damage created by deer is nearly \$50 per acre today. DNR reports show that more than 10% of the deer harvested this hunting season were done on Sundays. However, some counties in the state don't allow Sunday hunting at all. Creating a uniform Sunday hunting policy for the whole state to have these additional Sunday hunting dates will allow the hunters to help address the overpopulation of deer in many parts of the State, most importantly where Sunday hunting isn't allowed now.

MDFB Policy: We support uniform Sunday deer hunting laws throughout the state on private land. We support statewide Sunday hunting on private lands.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS HB 1279 AND ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colby Ferguson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Colby Ferguson
Director of Government Relations

For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396