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

March 11, 2022

To: House Environment & Transportation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of HB 514 - Charles County - Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting

On behalf of our member families in Charles County, I submit this written testimony in support of HB 514, legislation that would add Charles 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 Southern Maryland. DNR reports show that more than 10% of the deer harvested this hunting season were done on Sundays. Allowing Charles County to have these additional Sunday hunting dates will allow the hunters to help address the overpopulation of deer in Charles County.

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

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS HB 514 AND ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT.

Colby Ferguson

Director of Government Relations

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