



March 8, 2022

HB1279 : Sunday Hunting and Archery Safety Zone Statewide Authorization and Establishment

Position: Unfavorable

The Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS) asks that the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee to give an unfavorable report on HB1279.

Allowing hunting on Sundays would rob the non-hunting residents of Maryland, who make up the majority, of the one day of the week during hunting season on which they can enjoy hiking, dog walking, bird watching, horseback riding mountain biking and other activities without the fear of encountering hunters. For example, a 2018 study¹ by DNR, involving three telephone surveys, found that only 8% of residents had hunted deer in the preceding two years. DNR also notes that only 2-3% of Marylanders hunt². This bill would give unfair preference to this small group of the general population.

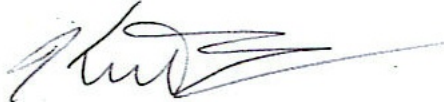
MOS is a Maryland-based volunteer organization of some 1900 members, with 15 chapters throughout the state. We are devoted to the enjoyment, study and preservation of birds and their habitat.

¹ At page 14 in: Maryland Residents', Landowners', Hunters' Attitudes Towards Deer Hunting and Deer Management.
Prepared by Responsive Management. DNR, 2018

²https://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/hunt_trap/deerhuntastool.aspx#:~:text=While%20only%20small%20percentage%20of,tool%20and%20support%20its%20use.

Please reply to this email and confirm that it has been received and presented to the Committee.

Sincerely,



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