



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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

March 8, 2023

To: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Support of SB 155 - Prince George's County - Natural Resources - Sunday Deer Hunting and Archery Hunting Safety Zones**

On behalf of our Prince George's County Farm Bureau member families, I submit this written testimony in support of SB 155, legislation that authorizes the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to allow, in Prince George's County, a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January, inclusive. The bill also decreases the archery hunting safety zone in Prince George's County from 150 yards to 50 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

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. Opening Prince George's County to have these additional Sunday hunting dates will allow the hunters to help address the overpopulation of deer in Prince George's County.

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

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 155 & REQUESTS 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