



Maryland Bowhunters Society

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marylandbowhunterssociety.org

Good afternoon honorable chairman and ladies and gentlemen of the committee,

My name is Maribeth Kulynycz and I am here today on behalf of the Maryland Bowhunters Society in support of HB 983.

MBS has been advocating for hunters across Maryland since 1977. We pride ourselves on bringing a voice to the hunting community. Being from Somerset county myself and hunting Wicomico and Worcester counties as well, the overwhelming outcry from the average hunter is more Sunday hunting opportunities. As you've heard most people work and go to school Monday-Friday, allowing this extra day would be a huge benefit to the working class hunters and families across Maryland.

I am not only a hunter I am also an avid equestrian, as well as a CHA certified riding instructor who takes out trail rides several times a week on public land. During the hundreds of rides I've been a part of we have never once had a dangerous or unfriendly encounter with a hunter. Especially not a waterfowl hunter. Waterfowl hunters are usually hunting very early morning and typically focused more around water on blustery winter days. This allows us late mornings, mid day and early afternoons to take our rides out undisturbed. And when in doubt we wear fluorescent orange vests for an added measure of safety.

MBS also stands behind the increase in hunting license fees. For us on the shore we have seen a major influx in out of state hunters with sika deer being one of the biggest draws. The sika community is very vocal about wanting an increase, especially for out of state licenses. Considering it's been decades since an increase in license fees we feel it is time for this to happen. And in the long run it will be a benefit to all outdoorsmen and women.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Maribeth Kulynycz
MBS executive secretary