COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY

COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING 501 Court Lane, P.O. Box 26 Cambridge, Maryland 21613 (410) 228-1700

GEORGE L. PFEFFER, JR., PRESIDENT

MIKE DETMER, VICE PRESIDENT

ROB KRAMER, JR.

WILLIAM V. NICHOLS

RICKY C. TRAVERS



JERRY JONES COUNTY MANAGER

MACLEOD LAW GROUP LLC COUNTY ATTORNEY

February 10, 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Senator Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee 2 West Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support - SB796 Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Repeal of Time Restriction

Dear Chairman Feldman and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for Senate Bill 796 entitled "Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Repeal of Time Restriction" for the purpose of repealing the time restrictions that apply to Sunday hunting in Dorchester County; and generally relating to Sunday hunting.

Senate Bill 796 proposes to amend Section 10-410 under the Natural Resources article by extending hunting hours for game birds and game mammals on Sundays in Dorchester County. Currently, Dorchester County residents are limited to hunting from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. This bill will remove that restriction, along with the provisions in subparagraph (1)(iv), lessening the challenges faced by those who work irregular shifts and overtime, such as the blue-collar workforce, medical professionals and public safety personnel. By removing this limitation, the bill will also support wildlife management efforts, reduce crop damage caused by overpopulation, and foster the recruitment of new hunters, ensuring the transfer of skills to future generations. Additionally, the extended hours would stimulate the local economy by boosting tourism, creating jobs, and supporting small businesses in the rural community. Therefore, we urge you to look favorably upon this bill and its passage.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of support. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Council's Office at (410) 228-1700.

Sincerely,

George L. Pfeffer, Jr.

President