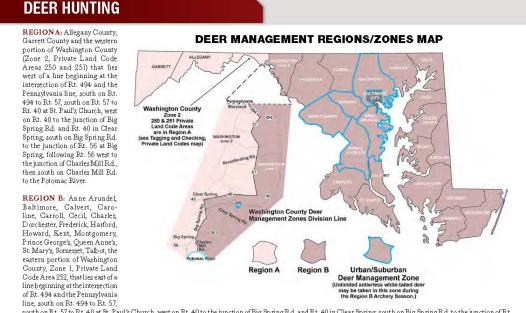




## House Bill 0511 Frederick and Washington Counties – Bow Hunting Openly Carrying Handguns FAVORABLE

Current law provides that a bow hunter may wear and carry a handgun while hunting deer in Region A as a reasonable precaution against black bears. As shown on the map below, Region A is comprised of Garrett and Allegany Counties and the western portion of Washington County. Due to successful conservation practices, the black bear population has increased in Area A and the black bear population has now significantly increased in the remaining portion of Washington County and into Frederick County.

This bill simply extends the area where a bow hunter may carry a handgun to include all of Washington and Frederick Counties.



south on Rt. 57 to Rt. 40 at St. Faul's Church, west on Rt. 40 to the junction of Big Spring Rd. and Rt. 40 in Clear Spring south on Big Spring Rd. to the junction of Rt. 56 at Big Spring, following Rt. 56 west to the junction of Charles Mill Rd., then south on Charles Mill Rd. to the Potomac River), Wicomico and Worcester counties.

We urge a favorable report on House Bill 511.

Respectfully,

John H. Josselyn 2A Maryland 02/26/2025

HB0511\_Testimony\_2A Maryland .docx