

SB0879 Favorable  
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## Expansion of Access

Many Maryland hunters work during the week and are unable to hunt until the weekend. Similarly, youth hunters have school throughout the week and are only able to hunt on the weekend. Under current Sunday hunting restrictions that gives them one day per week to potentially hunt. Not every hunter has access to private land hunting opportunities under the authority of a crop damage permit, so they are unable to hunt throughout the rest of the year. **Restrictions on Sunday hunting reduce hunting access by 50% for public land hunters in Maryland.**

## Expansion of Population Control

Similar to my first point, by allowing Sunday hunting we increase opportunities for the harvest of deer by 50% for working class and youth hunters. The state simply has too many deer and we should be empowering our dwindling number of hunters to harvest the ever increasing population of white tail deer. **Removing restrictions on Sunday hunting will greatly benefit the environment of Baltimore City as well as the rest of the state.**

## Archery Safety Zone

Suburban and urban areas are by nature filled with dwellings or other buildings. A safety zone of 150 yards while hunting is sensible for rifle hunting, but for archery hunting, which operates under much smaller target ranges, it is simply too large. By setting an archery safety zone size of 50 yards we properly empower archery hunters to safely and humanely dispatch deer in our suburban and urban areas.

Maryland archers are by far the least prone to safety concerns. In fact the few instances of harm from Maryland archery hunters are entirely self-inflicted. Maryland archers provably do not pose a risk to the public. **Setting an archery safety zone size of 50 yards will properly empower archers in Baltimore City to safely and effectively reduce the nuisance deer population.**

**For these reasons I ask for a favorable report on this bill.**