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March 03, 2026

Honorable Members of the Maryland Senate
Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Md. 21401

**Subject: SB-0643 Natural Resources – Hunting Management
SUPPORT**

Dear Honorable Senators:

I represent the Western Maryland Sportsmen's Coalition, Inc. comprised of the many hunting clubs and sportsmen's associations and thousands of their individual members living in Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick, and Carroll Counties. As President of the Coalition, I work together with the leadership of these Western Maryland Sportsmen's organizations for the recognition and benefit of the sportsmen and sportswomen of the five most western counties of Maryland.

On March 10, 2026, the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee will be hearing the advantages and disadvantages of **SB-0643 (Natural Resources – Hunting Management)**. This bill simply recognizes the desirability and efficiency of the Department of Natural Resources to study, research and implement effective game management regulations. Clearly, the Department's expertise in wildlife management and consistent stakeholder engagement make it best suited to regulate and address concerns regarding our wildlife resources.

The sportsmen and sportswomen of Western Maryland strongly urge you to support and vote favorably on SB-0643.

Respectfully,

Ben Kelkye

President
Western Maryland Sportsmen's Coalition, Inc.

Ben Kelkye	President, WMSC, President Frederick County Sportsmen's Council
Jerry Zembower	President, Garrett & Allegany Sportsmen's Association
Joe Winter	President, Washington County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
Matt Guilfoyle	President, Carroll County Sportsmen's Association

Garrett

Allegany

Washington

Frederick

Carroll