

SB0918 Favorable
Sean Beck

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. For a public land rifle hunter who does not archery hunt or own a muzzleloader, said hunter is left with exactly **three days** throughout the season to hunt. If the hunter is financially able to acquire a muzzleloader, that adds **four days**. 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 our state.**

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