

HOUSE BILL 840

M2

11r2867
CF SB 634

By: **Delegate Otto**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 9, 2021

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Somerset County – Natural Resources – Sunday Hunting**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person in
4 Somerset County to hunt on private property on each Sunday of the game bird or
5 game mammal seasons; establishing an exception to the prohibition against the
6 Department authorizing Sunday hunting on public land for public land in Somerset
7 County leased to a hunt club; making certain conforming changes; and generally
8 relating to Sunday hunting in Somerset County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Natural Resources
11 Section 10–410(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Natural Resources**

17 10–410.

18 (a) (1) The Department may allow a person to hunt on each Sunday of the
19 game bird and game mammal seasons in:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1 (i) Allegany County;
- 2 (ii) Cecil County;
- 3 (iii) Garrett County;
- 4 (iv) St. Mary's County; [and]
- 5 (v) **SOMERSET COUNTY; AND**
- 6 **(VI)** Washington County.

7 (2) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the
8 deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in
9 January, inclusive, in:

- 10 (i) Carroll County;
- 11 (ii) Dorchester County; and
- 12 (iii) Frederick County.

13 (3) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Department
14 may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from 30
15 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. in:

- 16 1. Kent County; and
- 17 2. Montgomery County.

18 (ii) The time restrictions under this paragraph do not apply:

- 19 1. To a participant in a junior deer hunt authorized under
20 this subtitle;
- 21 2. On one Sunday designated by the Department during the
22 deer firearms season;
- 23 3. In Kent County, on each Sunday during the deer bow
24 hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season; and
- 25 4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the
26 Department during the deer bow hunting season.

27 (4) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer
28 firearms season:

- 1 (i) On each Sunday in:
 - 2 1. Calvert County;
 - 3 2. Caroline County;
 - 4 3. Charles County;
 - 5 4. Harford County;
 - 6 5. Queen Anne’s County; **AND**
 - 7 6. [Somerset County; and
 - 8 7.] Worcester County;

- 9 (ii) On the first Sunday in:
 - 10 1. Anne Arundel County; and
 - 11 2. Talbot County; and

- 12 (iii) In Wicomico County, on:
 - 13 1. The first Sunday; and
 - 14 2. The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until
 - 15 10:30 a.m.

16 (5) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer bow
17 hunting season on:

- 18 (i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in
19 November in:
 - 20 1. Calvert County;
 - 21 2. Caroline County;
 - 22 3. Charles County;
 - 23 4. Harford County;
 - 24 5. Queen Anne’s County;
 - 25 6. [Somerset County;

1 7.] Talbot County;

2 [8.] 7. Wicomico County; and

3 [9.] 8. Worcester County; and

4 (ii) The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County.

5 (6) The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each Sunday of
6 the spring turkey hunting season in:

7 (i) Calvert County;

8 (ii) Caroline County;

9 (iii) Carroll County;

10 (iv) Charles County;

11 (v) Dorchester County; and

12 (vi) Kent County.

13 (7) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the Department
14 may allow a person with a deer management permit to shoot deer on any Sunday
15 throughout the year in accordance with the terms of the permit.

16 (8) The Department may allow a person using a State certified raptor to
17 hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the game birds
18 or mammals.

19 (9) The Department may allow an unarmed person participating in an
20 organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

21 (10) The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared game birds
22 or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting ground
23 in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

24 (11) The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or younger to
25 hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department in
26 accordance with this subtitle.

27 (12) Except as provided in paragraphs (8) through (10) of this subsection and
28 subject to paragraph (7) of this subsection, a person may not hunt on Sunday in:

29 (i) Baltimore City;

- 1 (ii) Baltimore County;
- 2 (iii) Howard County; or
- 3 (iv) Prince George’s County.

4 (13) A person may not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

5 (14) A person may not hunt on public land within the State park system on
6 Sunday.

7 (15) The Department may not allow a person to hunt on public land
8 designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday except in:

- 9 (i) Allegany County;
- 10 (ii) Cecil County;
- 11 (iii) Garrett County;
- 12 (iv) St. Mary’s County;
- 13 (v) Washington County;
- 14 (vi) Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey hunting
15 season; [and]
- 16 (vii) Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in October
17 through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive; AND

18 **(VIII) SOMERSET COUNTY, ON PUBLIC LAND LEASED TO A HUNT**
19 **CLUB.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
21 1, 2021.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.