

HOUSE BILL 1279

M2

2lr2743

By: **Delegates Hornberger, Buckel, Reilly, and Shoemaker**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sunday Hunting and Archery Hunting Safety Zones – Statewide Authorization**
3 **and Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person to
5 hunt on Sundays on private property statewide and any public land in the State
6 designated for hunting by the Department; establishing a uniform statewide safety
7 zone for archery hunters; and generally relating to Sunday hunting and archery
8 hunting safety zones in the State.

9 BY repealing

10 Chapter 95 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2020

11 Section 2 and 3

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Natural Resources

14 Section 10–410(a) and (g) and 10–906(b)(3)(i)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

18 Chapter 95 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2020

19 Section 4

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
21 That Section(s) 2 and 3 of Chapter 95 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2020 be
22 repealed.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
24 as follows:

25 **Article – Natural Resources**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 10–410.

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

- 4 (i) Allegany County;
- 5 (ii) Cecil County;
- 6 (iii) Garrett County;
- 7 (iv) St. Mary's County; and
- 8 (v) Washington County].

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

- 12 (i) Carroll County;
- 13 (ii) Dorchester County; and
- 14 (iii) Frederick County.

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

- 18 1. Kent County; and
- 19 2. Montgomery County.

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

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

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

3 (i) On each Sunday in:

- 4 1. Calvert County;
- 5 2. Caroline County;
- 6 3. Charles County;
- 7 4. Harford County;
- 8 5. Queen Anne's County;
- 9 6. Somerset County; and
- 10 7. Worcester County;

11 (ii) On the first Sunday in:

- 12 1. Anne Arundel County; and
- 13 2. Talbot County; and

14 (iii) In Wicomico County, on:

- 15 1. The first Sunday; and
- 16 2. The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until
17 10:30 a.m.

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

20 (i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in
21 November in:

- 22 1. Calvert County;
- 23 2. Caroline County;
- 24 3. Charles County;
- 25 4. Harford County;

1 5. Queen Anne’s County;

2 6. Somerset County;

3 7. Talbot County;

4 8. Wicomico County; and

5 9. Worcester County; and

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

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

9 (i) Calvert County;

10 (ii) Caroline County;

11 (iii) Carroll County;

12 (iv) Charles County;

13 (v) Dorchester County; and

14 (vi) Kent County.]

15 [(7)] (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the
16 Department may allow a person with a deer management permit to shoot deer on any
17 Sunday throughout the year in accordance with the terms of the permit.

18 [(8)] (3) The Department may allow a person using a State certified
19 raptor to hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the
20 game birds or mammals.

21 [(9)] (4) The Department may allow an unarmed person participating in
22 an organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

23 [(10)] (5) The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared game
24 birds or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting
25 ground in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

26 [(11)] (6) The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or
27 younger to hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department
28 in accordance with this subtitle.

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

- 3 (i) Baltimore City;
- 4 (ii) Baltimore County;
- 5 (iii) Howard County; or
- 6 (iv) Prince George's County.]

7 [(13) (7) A person may not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

8 [(14) (8) A person may not hunt on public land within the State park
9 system on Sunday.

10 [(15) (9) The Department may [not] allow a person to hunt on public land
11 designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday [except in:

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

21 (g) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a
22 person, other than the owner or occupant, while hunting for any wild bird or mammal may
23 not shoot or discharge any firearm or other deadly weapon within 150 yards, known as the
24 "safety zone", of a dwelling house, residence, church, or other building or camp occupied by
25 human beings, or shoot at any wild bird or mammal while it is within this area, without
26 the specific advance permission of the owner or occupant.

27 (2) A person, while hunting for any wild bird or mammal, may not shoot or
28 discharge any firearm within 300 yards of a public or nonpublic school during school hours
29 or at a time when a school-approved activity is taking place.

