



Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor  
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary  
Charles Glass, Deputy Secretary

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March 4, 2020

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky  
Chair, Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan  
Vice Chair, Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 500 – Talbot County – Turkey and Deer Hunting – Sundays

Dear Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources provides the following information regarding Senate Bill 500.

Sunday hunting of deer is currently permitted on private property in Talbot County during the archery season for deer during the last three Sundays in October and the second Sunday in November; during the Sunday of the junior deer hunt; and on the first Sunday during the deer firearms season. No Sunday hunting of wild turkey is currently authorized in Talbot County.

There is now a 3-day January firearms season for hunting deer in the eastern portion of the State known as Region B, which includes Talbot County. The third day of this season is on a Sunday in those counties for which Sunday hunting is allowed. Currently, Sunday hunting is not allowed during that Sunday in Talbot County.

Since 2004 when one firearms deer hunting Sunday was authorized for several counties, the results have been remarkable – with many counties enjoying 15-25% of their total harvest occurring on that single Sunday. Reducing the deer population will reduce crop losses to Maryland farmers and minimize the likelihood of automobile collisions with deer and the concomitant personal and property damage.

Senate Bill 500 would allow a person to hunt on certain additional Sundays during the junior hunt for turkeys, and during the winter portion of the deer firearms season.

Thank you for allowing the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to provide this information regarding Senate Bill 500.

Respectfully submitted,  
James W. McKitrick  
Director, Legislative and Constituent Services

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