

SENATE BILL 777

M2

3lr2771
CF 3lr2776

By: **Senator Mautz**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Middle Shore Counties – Sunday Hunting – Repeal of Time Restrictions**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the time restrictions that apply to Sunday hunting in
4 Caroline County, Dorchester County, Talbot County, and Wicomico County; and
5 generally relating to Sunday hunting in Caroline County, Dorchester County, Talbot
6 County, and Wicomico County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Natural Resources
9 Section 10–410(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Natural Resources**

15 10–410.

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

18 1. Allegany County;

19 2. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Calvert
20 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

21 3. [Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph,] Caroline
22 County[, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.];

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 4. Cecil County;

2 5. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Charles
3 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

4 6. [Subject to subparagraph (iv) of this paragraph,]
5 Dorchester County[, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.];

6 7. Garrett County;

7 8. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Queen
8 Anne's County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

9 9. St. Mary's County;

10 10. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset
11 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.; and

12 11. Washington County.

13 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 of this paragraph
14 do not apply:

15 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

16 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
17 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

18 (iii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)2, [3,] 5, and 8 of
19 this paragraph do not apply:

20 1. On each Sunday during the deer firearms season;

21 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
22 Sundays in November during the deer bow hunting season; and

23 3. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.

24 [(iv) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)6 of this paragraph
25 do not apply:

26 1. On each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from the first
27 Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January, inclusive; and

28 2. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.]

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

4 (i) Carroll County; and

5 (ii) Frederick County.

6 (3) **THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER ON**
7 **EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER HUNTING SEASONS IN TALBOT COUNTY.**

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

11 1. Kent County; **AND**

12 2. Montgomery County[; and

13 3. Talbot County].

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

15 1. To a participant in a junior deer hunt authorized under
16 this subtitle;

17 2. On one Sunday designated by the Department during the
18 deer firearms season;

19 3. In Kent County, on each Sunday during the deer bow
20 hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season; **AND**

21 4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the
22 Department during the deer bow hunting season[; and

23 5. In Talbot County, on the last three Sundays in October
24 and the first two Sundays in November during the bow hunting season].

25 [(4)] (5) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer
26 firearms season:

27 (i) On each Sunday in:

28 1. Harford County; [and]

29 2. **WICOMICO COUNTY; AND**

- 1 **3.** Worcester County; **AND**
- 2 (ii) On the first Sunday in Anne Arundel County]; and
- 3 (iii) In Wicomico County, on:
- 4 1. The first Sunday; and
- 5 2. The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until
- 6 10:30 a.m].
- 7 **[(5)] (6)** The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer
- 8 bow hunting season on:
- 9 (i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in
- 10 November in:
- 11 1. Harford County;
- 12 2. Wicomico County; and
- 13 3. Worcester County; and
- 14 (ii) The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County.
- 15 **[(6)] (7)** The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each
- 16 Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season in:
- 17 (i) Carroll County;
- 18 (ii) Kent County; and
- 19 (iii) Talbot County[, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m].
- 20 **[(7)] (8)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the
- 21 Department may allow a person with a deer management permit to shoot deer on any
- 22 Sunday throughout the year in accordance with the terms of the permit.
- 23 **[(8)] (9)** The Department may allow a person using a State certified
- 24 raptor to hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the
- 25 game birds or mammals.
- 26 **[(9)] (10)** The Department may allow an unarmed person participating in
- 27 an organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

1 **[(10)] (11)** The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared game
2 birds or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting
3 ground in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

4 **[(11)] (12)** The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or
5 younger to hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department
6 in accordance with this subtitle.

7 **[(12)] (13)** Except as provided in paragraphs **[(8)] (9)** through **[(10)] (11)** of
8 this subsection and subject to paragraph **[(7)] (8)** of this subsection, a person may not hunt
9 on Sunday in:

- 10 (i) Baltimore City;
- 11 (ii) Baltimore County;
- 12 (iii) Howard County; or
- 13 (iv) Prince George's County.

14 **[(13)] (14)** A person may not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

15 **[(14)] (15)** A person may not hunt on public land within the State park
16 system on Sunday.

17 **[(15)] (16)** (i) The Department may not allow a person to hunt on public
18 land designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday except in:

- 19 1. Allegany County;
- 20 2. Cecil County;
- 21 3. Garrett County;
- 22 4. St. Mary's County;
- 23 5. Washington County;
- 24 6. Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey
25 hunting season;
- 26 7. Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in
27 October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive; and

1 8. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset
2 County, on public land leased to a hunt club from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30
3 a.m.

4 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)8 of this paragraph
5 do not apply:

6 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

7 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
8 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2023.