

# SENATE BILL 779

M2  
HB 1452/22 – HRU

3lr2683  
CF HB 934

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By: **Senator Mautz**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Female Deer Hunting Contests – Authorization**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person,  
4 for the management of the deer population in the State, to sponsor, conduct, or  
5 participate in a certain contest in the State that has the objective of harvesting a  
6 female deer; and generally relating to doe hunting.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Natural Resources

9 Section 10–427

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 10–427.

16 (a) **(1)** Subject to [subsection (b)] **PARAGRAPH (2)** of this [section]  
17 **SUBSECTION**, a person may not sponsor, conduct, or participate in a contest organized in  
18 the State that has the objective of killing a coyote, fox, or raccoon for prizes or monetary  
19 rewards.

20 **[(b)] (2)** This [section] **SUBSECTION** may not be construed to prohibit:

21 **[(1)] (I)** A landowner or the landowner’s agent or lessee from killing  
22 coyotes, foxes, or raccoons on property of the landowner, provided that the killing is not  
23 part of an organized contest; **[or]**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **[(2)] (II) Lawful dog training or dog performance competitions; OR**

2                           **(III) A CONTEST AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS**  
3 **SECTION.**

4           **[(c)] (3) A person is subject to a fine of \$50 for each coyote, fox, or raccoon killed**  
5 **in violation of [subsection (a)] PARAGRAPH (1) of this [section] SUBSECTION.**

6           **(B) (1) TO MANAGE THE DEER POPULATION IN THE STATE, THE**  
7 **DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO SPONSOR, CONDUCT, OR PARTICIPATE IN**  
8 **AN EXISTING, RANDOM CONTEST IN THE STATE HELD DURING THE MONTH OF**  
9 **JANUARY THAT HAS THE OBJECTIVE OF HARVESTING A FEMALE DEER.**

10                   **(2) RANDOM LOTTERY AWARDS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**  
11 **SUBSECTION SHALL BE LIMITED TO THREE INDIVIDUALS PER CONTEST.**

12           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
13 1, 2023.