

SENATE BILL 259

M2
SB 944/09 – EHE

0lr1837
CF 0lr1969

By: **Senators Dyson, Colburn, and Middleton**
Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2010
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties – Deer Hunting**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish a
4 program in certain counties to train rifle shooters to hunt deer during daylight
5 hours for the purpose of controlling the deer population; requiring the
6 Department to give certain applicants priority to participate in the program;
7 requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations; authorizing a person to
8 hunt deer with a certain shotgun in certain counties during certain months;
9 authorizing a person who holds a Deer Damage Permit in certain counties to
10 hunt with a certain shotgun during deer season in certain locations, and to hunt
11 deer on certain State lands under certain conditions; prohibiting the
12 Department from requiring a person who holds a Deer Damage Permit in
13 certain counties to renew the permit more frequently than at a certain interval;
14 defining a certain term; and generally relating to the regulation by the
15 Department of Natural Resources of deer hunting in Calvert, Charles, and St.
16 Mary's counties.

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Natural Resources
19 Section 10–408.2 and 10–415(d)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
23 Article – Natural Resources
24 Section 10–415(a)
25 Annotated Code of Maryland
26 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **Article – Natural Resources**

2 **10-408.2.**

3 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM IN CALVERT,**
4 **CHARLES, AND ST. MARY’S COUNTIES TO TRAIN RIFLE SHOOTERS TO HUNT**
5 **DEER DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS TO CONTROL THE DEER POPULATION IN**
6 **CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY’S COUNTIES.**

7 **(B) WHEN SELECTING APPLICANTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE**
8 **PROGRAM UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL**
9 **GIVE PRIORITY TO APPLICANTS WHO HOLD A DEER DAMAGE PERMIT, AS**
10 **DEFINED IN § 10-415(D) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

11 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT**
12 **THIS SECTION.**

13 **10-415.**

14 **(a) (1) There are the following 3 seasons to hunt deer:**

15 **[(1)] (I) Deer bow hunting season;**

16 **[(2)] (II) Deer firearms season; and**

17 **[(3)] (III) Deer muzzle loader season.**

18 **(2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A**
19 **PERSON MAY HUNT DEER WITH A SHOTGUN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT**
20 **FROM JANUARY THROUGH MARCH IN CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY’S**
21 **COUNTIES.**

22 **(D) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “DEER DAMAGE PERMIT” MEANS A**
23 **PERMIT ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO AN AGRICULTURAL LANDOWNER OR**
24 **LESSEE IN THE STATE EXPERIENCING SEVERE CROP DAMAGE FROM DEER THAT**
25 **ALLOWS THE LANDOWNER OR LESSEE TO HUNT DEER OUTSIDE OF DEER**
26 **HUNTING SEASON ACCORDING TO CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE PERMIT.**

27 **(2) A PERSON WHO HOLDS A DEER DAMAGE PERMIT IN CALVERT**
28 **COUNTY, CHARLES COUNTY, OR ST. MARY’S COUNTY MAY:**

29 **(I) USE A SHOTGUN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO**
30 **HUNT DEER THROUGHOUT DEER SEASON IN THE LOCATIONS AND UNDER THE**
31 **CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE PERMIT; AND**

1 **(II) HUNT DEER ON STATE AGRICULTURAL CROP LAND**
2 **LOCATED IN CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES TO THE SAME**
3 **EXTENT AS THE PERSON IS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE DEER DAMAGE PERMIT TO**
4 **HUNT ON PRIVATE LAND IN CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES.**

5 **(3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REQUIRE A PERSON WHO HOLDS**
6 **A DEER DAMAGE PERMIT IN CALVERT COUNTY, CHARLES COUNTY, OR**
7 **ST. MARY'S COUNTY TO APPLY FOR RENEWAL MORE THAN ONCE EVERY 3**
8 **YEARS.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2010.