

## ACTION ALERT FROM THE TUCKAHOE EQUESTRIAN CENTER!!!

It's that time of the year -- the legislative season -- and bills affecting horse owners are being deliberated in Annapolis.

The Maryland Horse Council is organizing opposition to Senate Bill 777, **a bill that would lift the restriction to hunt after 10:30 in Talbot, Caroline, Wicomico, and Dorchester Counties. If this bill passes, hunting would be allowed *continuously* from mid-Sept to mid-January in the first three counties mentioned.** The Senate Committee for Education, Energy, and the Environment will be hearing this bill on March 8 beginning @ 1:00.

If you oppose this bill, making your opinion known is essential. Without input, from residents of these counties, your legislators can not represent you.

There are several ways listed below to let your legislators know how you feel about SB 777: 1) giving oral or written testimony, 2) telephoning and/or emailing the members of the Senate Committee for Education, Energy, and the Environment, 3) telephoning/emailing your legislators. All are explained below.

Attached are some "talking points" from the MD Horse Council. You can either read a prepared statement, or talk from bullet points.

1) To give either written (must be in .pdf format) or oral testimony, you need to create an on-line account. Go to: <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Committees/Details?cmte=ehe> (click on red button, top right corner)

This link: <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/pubs-current/current-ehe-faqs.pdf> gives more particulars than you probably need to know. Mainly, **you need to sign up between 8 am- 3:00 pm (no exceptions) Tuesday, March 7**, in order to testify via Zoom on Wed. March 8. Hearings are live-streamed on YouTube, so you can follow to proceedings to get a better time-frame. At this time, the hearing is slated for 1:00, but this might change. If you're watching simultaneously on YouTube, you'll need to exit YouTube as soon as your bill is called so you won't get interference on Zoom when you give testimony. Oral testimony in the Senate hearings is limited to 2.5 minutes, and you'll see a count-down clock as you testify. Testifying is very satisfying - even fun!!

2) If you'd like to voice your opinion on this Senate bill without testifying at the hearing, you can call (Committee phone: 410-841-3661, 1-800-492-7122 ext. 3661), email the Senate Committee: ([AA\\_EHE@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:AA_EHE@mlis.state.md.us)) or e-mail the individual members of the Senate Committee (addresses below) (preferred). You can just say "I oppose" or add more thoughts ... every little bit helps! Your voice is so important! Without it, this bill might be "the last nail in the coffin" that keeps some of our Sundays hunting-free. Your voice is important if you ride in one of the above counties-- even if you do not reside there. Please include your name, home address, and zip code.

[brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us](mailto:brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us) - Chair  
[Cheryl.Kagan@senate.state.md.us](mailto:Cheryl.Kagan@senate.state.md.us) - Vice Chair  
[benjamin.brooks@senate.state.md.us](mailto:benjamin.brooks@senate.state.md.us)  
[jason.gallion@senate.state.md.us](mailto:jason.gallion@senate.state.md.us)  
[katiefry.hester@sene.state.md.usat](mailto:katiefry.hester@sene.state.md.usat)  
[ron.watson@senate.state.md.us](mailto:ron.watson@senate.state.md.us)  
[bryan.simonaire@senate.state.md.us](mailto:bryan.simonaire@senate.state.md.us)  
[mary.washington@senate.state.md.us](mailto:mary.washington@senate.state.md.us)  
[karen.young@senate.state.md.us](mailto:karen.young@senate.state.md.us)  
[marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us](mailto:marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us)

3) This is a county courtesy bill, so please also contact your elected representatives. Below are those for District 37B which includes Talbot, Caroline, Wicomico and Dorchester:

Senator Johnny Mautz (tel. 410-841-3590 and e-mail: [johnny.mautz@senate.state.md.us](mailto:johnny.mautz@senate.state.md.us))  
Delegate Christopher Adams (tel. 410-841-3343 and email: [christopher.hutchison@house.state.md.us](mailto:christopher.hutchison@house.state.md.us))  
Delegate Tom Hutchison (tel. 410-841-3582 and e-mail: [tom.hutchison@house.state.md.us](mailto:tom.hutchison@house.state.md.us))

Thank you,

Al Martinez  
President  
Tuckahoe Equestrian Center  
(516) 381-0314