



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

October 10, 2017

Mr. Doug Lechliden
Vice Chairman
Agricultural Advisory Committee
18410 Muncaster Road
Derwood, MD 20855-1421

Dear Mr. Lechliden,

Thank you for your correspondence expressing your views on Bill 30-17, Weapons – Discharge of Bows – Amendments. I have made it available to my Council colleagues, and I am pleased to respond on their behalf.

Bill 30-17 sponsored by Lead Sponsor Council President Berliner, Councilmembers Leventhal, Katz, Rice, Elrich, Council Vice President Riemer, and Councilmembers Navarro, Hucker, and Floreen, was introduced on September 12, 2017. A public hearing was held on September 19. A Public Safety Committee worksession was held on September 25. The Council enacted the Bill on September 26, 2017 and the Executive signed it into law on October 4. The Bill took effect on October 4.

Chapter 443 of the 2017 Laws of Maryland (HB 313), enacted by the General Assembly in the last legislative session, reduced the safety zone in the County prohibiting bow hunting within 100 yards of a building designed for human occupancy without the owner's consent to within 50 yards of a building. See ©4-5. The State law also added a requirement that a bow hunter discharging a bow within 50 to 100 yards of a building do so using a tree stand. Bill 30-17 will similarly reduce the safety zone for bow hunting under County law from 100 yards to 50 yards to be consistent with the amended State law. The intent of this Bill is to facilitate bow hunting of deer to help control the overpopulation of deer in the County.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on this important matter.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Berliner", written over a horizontal line.

Roger Berliner
President, Montgomery County Council