


MEMORANDUM

June 6, 2014

TO: County Council

FROM: Robert H. Drummer, Senior Legislative Attorney 

SUBJECT: **Introduction:** Expedited Bill 35-14, Weapons – Discharge of Bows - Amendments

Expedited Bill 35-14, Weapons – Discharge of Bows - Amendments, sponsored by Council Vice President Leventhal, Councilmember Berliner and Council President Rice, is scheduled to be introduced on June 10. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for July 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Bill 35-14 would reduce the safety zone for archery hunters in the County from 150 yards to 100 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or other building or camp occupied by human beings. SB309, enacted by the General Assembly this year reduced the archery hunting safety zone in the County from 150 yards to 100 yards. Bill 35-14 would keep County law regulating archery hunting consistent with State law.

This packet contains:

Bill 35-14

Legislative Request Report

Circle #

1

3

Expedited Bill No. 35-14
Concerning: Weapons – Discharge of
Bows - Amendments
Revised: May 14, 2014 Draft No. 1
Introduced: June 10, 2014
Expires: December 10, 2015
Enacted: [date]
Executive: [date signed]
Effective: [date takes effect]
Sunset Date: [date expires]
Ch. [#], Laws of Mont. Co. [year]

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council Vice President Leventhal, Councilmember Berliner and Council President Rice

AN EXPEDITED ACT to:

- (1) reduce the safety zone for archery hunters in the County; and
- (2) generally amend the laws governing the discharge of bows.

By amending

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 57, Weapons
Section 57-6

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

1 **Sec. 1. Section 57-6 is amended as follows:**

2 **57-6. Discharge of bows.**

3 (a) *Prohibition.* A person must not discharge a bow in the County:

4 (1) from, onto, or across a public road;

5 (2) into or within [150] 100 yards of a building or camp designed for
6 human occupancy without the owner or occupant's written
7 consent; or

8 (3) from, onto, or across public or private property without the owner
9 or occupant's written consent;

10 (b) *Exception.* Subsection (a) does not apply to target archery practiced in
11 compliance with safety guidelines established in regulations adopted
12 under method (2).

13 **Sec. 2. Expedited Effective Date.**

14 The Council declares that this legislation is necessary for the immediate
15 protection of the public interest. This Act takes effect on the date on which it
16 becomes law.

17 *Approved:*

18

Craig L. Rice, President, County Council

Date

19 *Approved:*

20

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Date

21 *This is a correct copy of Council action.*

22

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Expedited Bill 35-14

Weapons – Discharge of Bows - Amendments

DESCRIPTION: The Bill would decrease the archery hunting safety zone size in the County from 150 yards to 100 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or other building or camp occupied by human beings.

PROBLEM: State law was enacted this year to decrease the archery hunting safety zone in the County from 150 yards to 100 yards.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: Keep County law consistent with State law restrictions on archery hunting.

COORDINATION: Police, County Attorney

FISCAL IMPACT: To be requested.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: To be requested.

EVALUATION: To be requested.

EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE: To be researched.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: Robert H. Drummer, Senior Legislative Attorney

APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES: To be researched.

PENALTIES: Class A Violation