

Dear Mr. Bowsza,

My name is George M. Semel, I currently hunt my own Acreage in East Haddam, CT. I have about 80 or so Acres I understand that Senate Bill 83 would allow Sunday hunting Archery only on private land. While this is a good step forward, I do not hunt with a bow nor do I ever intend to. I hunt with a rifle. and since some years back the shooting hours were changed, made it more difficult to fill a deer tag. Nature of White Tail Deer and when they move or not. Since my acreage is rather small, its sit on stand and wait for game to come by. Loosing that last bit of shooting time hurt, since we have to be out of the woods by law when the best hunting is that last half hour of day light. I understand the reasons for this change and its not a problem for me.

What it a problem is that It takes more hunting time not less to collect a deer legally that it did before the change. Senate Bill 83 should include Rifles shotguns and muzzle loaders as well as Archery. Most not landowner hunters get just a few days at best to hunt, and since most have to work, that leaves just Saturday, and its not even the whole day for a lot of people do to other responsibilities. Just a couple of hours, and when you add up the whole season, not much time for the woods.

I would like for the Committee to consider this just make it legal to hunt on Sunday and be done with it. The State have done away with pretty much all of the Blue Laws, and if you start going on Religious grounds as Sunday is the Sabbath and a day of rest, that will not fly, since the State has strip all religion from the public discourse. I just look at what Christmas has become.

Sunday Hunting would give me another 8 days out of the Nov 1 to Dec 31 time frame that Landowners get to hunt with rifles. And since the State decided to cut shooting hours back, I could do with the extra 8 days. I would like the shooting times back but I am willing to not make issue of that for Sunday Hunting.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

George M. Semel