

**Environment Committee Public Hearing  
March 7, 2012**

**SENATE BILL 83**

---

Mr. Chairman and members of the Environment Committee, thank you for letting me speak to you. My name is Rick Anderson and I live in Madison, CT, and I am definitely in support of **S.B. No. 83: An Act Concerning Sunday Bow Hunting for Deer on Private Land.**

I have been a hunter since as far back as I can remember. Catching frogs and turtles as a kid led to going out with my father for Ruffed Grouse in Madison. Sadly, loss of habitat has pretty much ended the grouse hunting. Deer and turkeys have come back strong and their populations are doing well. **All hunters help with their management but the bigger reason to allow Sunday bow hunting is for the recreation it affords.**

Hunting is more than the killing of an animal, so much more. It is about **tradition, being outdoors, learning about all wildlife, and most of all for those of us with kids, it's about passing that on to the next generation.**

It takes a lot of time to become a good archer and hunter. It is a year round practice; scouting for spots to set up hunts; asking for and gaining permission from private landowners, and then cultivating those relationships, and lastly making time to hunt. Unfortunately for most people, work and school leave little time left to hunt. This is the main reason why we should be allowed to hunt on Sundays.

Sunday bow hunting would also be an economic plus to the state, with no downside. It will allow for more permits to be sold and more deer tags to be filed. Also, bow hunting is inherently safe for the public. Most of the private lands I hunt on I never see another person. **Why would someone be walking through the woods?** Where I hunt, **they would be trespassing** since the landowner had me post the land. Most of the hunters I know are also bow hunting private and posted land. This seems to be the norm.

I understand the political reasons for the inclusion of the **blazed trail set back but I disagree with the need for it.** It should up to the landowner whether or not they allow other recreational use while hunters are using the same land. I also would like to share that I am in favor of turkey hunting on Sundays for all the same reasons as deer hunting, especially for kids getting involved.

**CT is one of six states left that don't allow some form of Sunday hunting. I hope you will consider this bill and my testimony will help lead to it's passage.**

**Thank you,  
Rick Anderson**