Public Comment in support of Raised Bill No. 83 An Act Authorizing Bow and Arrow Hunting on Sunday under Certain Circumstances

March 5, 2012

I am writing this letter urging you to support Raised Bill No. 83.

Connecticut is one of the few remaining states with an archaic outright ban on Sunday hunting. It is long past the time for Connecticut to leave the Sunday hunting ban to annals of historical oddity where it belongs. Raised Bill No. 83, while not going far enough, is a reasonable start to this process.

As a hunter and landowner, it is absolutely indefensible that I cannot hunt either my family owned private property or other private property with the permission of the landowner on Sunday. Others on the property would likely be there without permission and therefore trespassing. Many arguments used by the opposition focus on having one day a week in the outdoors without hunters. If you accept this argument in opposition to Raised Bill No. 83, you are favoring trespassers over law abiding landowners and hunters. Having hunted in Connecticut for almost 30 years I can say without reservation that hunters and non hunters share the outdoors on both public and private property the other six days week with little or no issue.

Hunting is a healthy pursuit for both mind and body. My relationship with my late father was enhanced greatly by spending time with him hunting. I am sure there are many fathers, sons, moms and daughters that have had the same experience. A good friend of mine credits hunting with very literally saving his life by giving him a productive and healthy pursuit in place of destructive ones. It is in the best interest of Connecticut and its citizens to promote healthy lifestyles, and I can think of nothing better than hunting in this regard. Allowing hunting on Sunday would allow working families additional time in the woods that they may not otherwise have.

Please do the right thing here, and end the Sunday hunting ban.

Respectfully,

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