



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 83

LCO No. 871

00871_____ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

***AN ACT AUTHORIZING BOW AND ARROW HUNTING ON SUNDAY
UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 26-73 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

3 Sunday shall be a closed season except for hunting with bow and
4 arrow and for the purpose of trapping under the provisions of this
5 chapter. The possession in the open air on Sunday of any implement
6 for hunting, except for bow and arrow, shall be prima facie evidence of
7 hunting in violation of the provisions of this section. No provision of
8 this section shall be construed so as to affect any provision of section
9 26-31, 26-48, 26-52 or 27-35. [or apply to the use of bow and arrow for
10 purposes other than hunting.] Artificially propagated birds designated
11 by the commissioner may be shot on Sundays on licensed private
12 shooting preserves subject to such regulations of the commissioner as
13 may apply to such private shooting preserves, provided permission so
14 to shoot has been obtained from the town or towns within which such
15 licensed private shooting preserves are located. Any person who hunts
16 on Sunday with bow and arrow pursuant to this section shall conduct

17 such hunting in accordance with and pursuant to the wildlife
18 management principles and practices established by the Commissioner
19 of Energy and Environmental Protection, have the written permission
20 of the private property owner where such hunting is conducted and
21 carry such written permission upon his or her person during the
22 hunting. No person shall hunt with bow and arrow on Sunday
23 pursuant to this section within forty yards of a blazed hiking trail.

24 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 26-86a of the general statutes is
25 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
26 *October 1, 2012*):

27 (a) The commissioner shall establish by regulation adopted in
28 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 standards for deer
29 management, and methods, regulated areas, bag limits, seasons and
30 permit eligibility for hunting deer with bow and arrow, muzzleloader
31 and shotgun, except that no such hunting shall be permitted on
32 Sunday by any means other than with bow and arrow. No person shall
33 hunt, pursue, wound or kill deer with a firearm without first obtaining
34 a deer permit from the commissioner in addition to the license
35 required by section 26-27. Application for such permit shall be made
36 on forms furnished by the commissioner and containing such
37 information as he may require. Such permit shall be of a design
38 prescribed by the commissioner, shall contain such information and
39 conditions as the commissioner may require, and may be revoked for
40 violation of any provision of this chapter or regulations adopted
41 pursuant thereto. As used in this section, "muzzleloader" means a rifle
42 or shotgun of at least forty-five caliber, incapable of firing a self-
43 contained cartridge, which uses powder, a projectile, including, but
44 not limited to, a standard round ball, mini-balls, maxi-balls and Sabot
45 bullets, and wadding loaded separately at the muzzle end, and "rifle"
46 means a long gun the projectile of which is six millimeters or larger in
47 diameter. The fee for a firearms permit shall be nineteen dollars for
48 residents of the state and sixty-eight dollars for nonresidents, except
49 that any nonresident who is an active full-time member of the armed

50 forces, as defined in section 27-103, may purchase a firearms permit for
51 the same fee as is charged a resident of the state. The commissioner
52 shall issue, without fee, a private land deer permit to the owner of ten
53 or more acres of private land and the husband or wife, parent,
54 grandparent, sibling and any lineal descendant of such owner,
55 provided no such owner, husband or wife, parent, grandparent, sibling
56 or lineal descendant shall be issued more than one such permit per
57 season. Such permit shall allow the use of a rifle, shotgun,
58 muzzleloader or bow and arrow on such land from November first to
59 December thirty-first, inclusive. Deer may be so hunted at such times
60 and in such areas of such state-owned land as are designated by the
61 Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection and on
62 privately owned land with the signed consent of the landowner, on
63 forms furnished by the department, and such signed consent shall be
64 carried by any person when so hunting on private land. The owner of
65 ten acres or more of private land may allow the use of a rifle to hunt
66 deer on such land during the shotgun season. The commissioner shall
67 determine, by regulation, the number of consent forms issued for any
68 regulated area established by said commissioner. The commissioner
69 shall provide for a fair and equitable random method for the selection
70 of successful applicants who may obtain shotgun and muzzleloader
71 permits for hunting deer on state lands. Any person whose name
72 appears on more than one application for a shotgun permit or more
73 than one application for a muzzleloader permit shall be disqualified
74 from the selection process for such permit. No person shall hunt,
75 pursue, wound or kill deer with a bow and arrow without first
76 obtaining a bow and arrow permit pursuant to section 26-86c. "Bow
77 and arrow", as used in this section and in section 26-86c, means a bow
78 with a draw weight of not less than forty pounds. The arrowhead shall
79 have two or more blades and may not be less than seven-eighths of an
80 inch at the widest point. No person shall carry firearms of any kind
81 while hunting with a bow and arrow under this section and section 26-
82 86c.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	26-73
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	26-86a(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To allow hunting by bow and arrow on Sundays under certain circumstances in order to help control the state's deer population.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]