

Honorable members of the Environment Committee,

Please Support SB915,

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

My name is Pat Lefemine and I represent all Bowhunters on behalf of the United Bowhunters of Connecticut. I am also the founder of a successful national bowhunting website based here in this state called Bowsite.com.

SB 915 is a common sense bill that seeks to remove the last of Connecticut's blue laws. Since this bill is bowhunting-only, private land only - not only is it safe, but direly needed to provide a management tool for Connecticut's expanding deer populations in our suburban areas.

Bowhunting is extremely safe. Shots are taken from elevated tree stands at deer on the ground. The average shot distance is 60 feet or less. There has never been a bowhunting related fatality in Connecticut due to an accidental shooting.

Bowhunting is growing in popularity as well. Because deer populations continue to expand in suburban areas (and Connecticut has a lot of those areas) bowhunting becomes the only acceptable solution for control in those areas.

The time has come for this legislature to treat sportsmen for what they are, law-abiding, conservationists who care deeply for Connecticut's forests and wildlife. I urge you to pass this bill out of the Environment Committee and urge the speaker to call this bill for a vote.

Respectfully,

Patrick Lefemine
United Bowhunters of Connecticut