

**RAISED BILL NO. 915**  
**TESTIMONY OF DR. NAN ZYLA, PRESIDENT, HARP, Inc.**  
**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**FEBRUARY 25, 2013**

**I OPPOSE Raised Bill No. 915, An Act Authorizing Bow and Arrow Hunting on Sunday Under Certain Circumstances. My objections to this bill are as follows:**

Hunting is currently allowed SIX DAYS A WEEK. Families and individuals who choose to enjoy nature and the outdoors by walking, hiking, photographing wildlife and scenery, and otherwise passively recreating are limited to only one day of the week, Sunday, without fear of being shot by a hunter.

THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE YEAR, hunting of one species or another is currently allowed. Cannot the public have at least one safe day out of the week? We are strongly opposed to this continuous and relentless expansion of hunting.

The majority (97-98%) of Connecticut's population does not hunt. However, ALL TAXPAYERS in the state "own" its resources, including wildlife.

Apparently in an effort to appeal to those with diminished physical strength so as to recruit more youth and those of advanced age, DEEP's proposed regulations allow the use of crossbow equipment. Let us not ignore the political economy that may be driving this proposal. That is, DEEP needs increased sales of hunting licenses to help support its staff, and sportsmen's groups need to recruit more dues-paying members to sustain their organizations. This "perfect storm" ultimately does harm to the overall environment and continues to teach our youth that violence is normal and acceptable.

With mass killings still fresh in our minds, we believe that this proposed bill only perpetuates a culture of violence that is merely disguised as sport.

Hunting with bows and arrows is considered the most inhumane and least effective of all forms of hunting. Numerous studies conducted by state wildlife agencies, such as Texas and Maryland, have concluded that fifty percent of deer struck by arrows are wounded and not retrieved by hunters. Wounded deer fleeing from hunters can unpredictably impact locations far from the original hunting site, as well as create dangerous traffic hazards.

According to the Humane Society of the United States, "Broadhead arrows wound or kill by causing hemorrhaging, thus creating the equivalent of a stab wound. Death rarely, if ever, comes quickly, being measured not in minutes, but hours or days" due to the loss of blood and/or infection.

Contact information: Dr. Nan Zyla, HARP, Inc. [skyharp@yahoo.com](mailto:skyharp@yahoo.com). 860-767-2196