

Committee Members,

Opening Sundays to bowhunting is essential to restoring and maintaining healthy deer populations in Connecticut. As you must have noticed, this year bowhunting harvests surpassed firearms harvest. We have a terrible problem with over-population in some areas of the state. For situations like those in Redding, CT to be avoided (where \$80,000 in funds were used to have professional sharpshooters annihilate 200 deer), Sunday hunting must be opened up. Most sportspeople, like myself, must work weekdays leaving only Saturdays and a handful of vacation days to be out in the woods.

The one part of the bill I am against is the no shooting within 40-yards of a blazed trail. If you didn't know, The United Underwriters have rated Archery as a safer sport than ALL ball sports - even golf! The perception that bowhunters are any danger to human beings is simply that - false perception. Also, I believe that private land is private land, and landowners ought to be able to grant permission for their entire property as they see fit.

Respectfully submitted,

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