

SENATE, No. 2196

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator STEVEN V. OROHO

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes Sunday firearm and bow hunting for deer on certain lands.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/8/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning hunting on Sunday with bow and arrow or
2 firearms on certain lands and amending R.S.23:4-24.

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4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. R.S.23:4-24 is amended to read as follows:

8 23:4-24. a. No person shall hunt with a hound or with
9 firearms or weapons of any kind, or carry a gun in the woods or
10 fields or on the waters on Sunday, under a penalty of \$50 for each
11 offense; except that this section shall not apply to:

12 (1) any person hunting raccoon between midnight on Saturday
13 and sunrise on Sunday during the season prescribed in R.S.23:4-1;

14 (2) a person possessing a valid and proper rifle permit licensed
15 to trap fur-bearing animals pursuant to the provisions of R.S.23:3-1
16 using a .22 caliber rifle and .22 caliber short rimfire cartridges to
17 humanely dispatch legally trapped animals; or

18 (3) a person using a bow and arrow or firearm to hunt deer
19 during any bow and arrow or firearm hunting season for deer
20 prescribed by the State Fish and Game Code, provided the person
21 possesses a valid bow and arrow or firearm license, or a valid "All
22 Around Sportsman License" if applicable, issued by the division,
23 abides by all applicable provisions of the code, and is hunting on a
24 State wildlife management area **【or on】** private property, federal
25 military land, subject to proper approval granted by the appropriate
26 federal military installation, or the William J. Hughes Technical
27 Center in Galloway Township, Atlantic County, subject to proper
28 approval granted by the administrative authority of the William J.
29 Hughes Technical Center.

30 b. This section shall not prevent farm land owners, lessees
31 actually occupying or farming the land, members of their immediate
32 families, or their farm employees from hunting and destroying at
33 any time and in any manner crows, woodchuck, fox and vermin on
34 that land.

35 (cf: P.L.2009, c.48, s.1)

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37 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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42 This bill would authorize Sunday hunting for deer with a firearm
43 on State wildlife management areas and private property. The bill
44 also would authorize Sunday hunting with a firearm or bow and
45 arrow on federal military land, subject to approval by the
46 appropriate federal military installation, and on the William J.
47 Hughes Technical Center in Galloway Township, Atlantic County,

1 subject to proper approval by the administrative authority of the
2 technical center.

3 Under current State law, hunting is prohibited on Sundays, with
4 certain limited exceptions. Although federal agencies may permit
5 hunting on their lands, these agencies are subject to both State and
6 federal laws regarding hunting. Thus, an individual may not hunt
7 on federal military installations in the State or on the William J.
8 Hughes Technical Center on Sundays.

9 This bill would amend current law to authorize Sunday hunting
10 of deer with a firearm on State wildlife management areas and
11 private property. Also, the bill would authorize firearm and bow
12 and arrow hunting of deer on Sundays on federal military lands and
13 on the William J. Hughes Technical Center, a Federal Aviation
14 Administration facility, during any bow and arrow or firearm
15 hunting season for deer prescribed by the State Fish and Game
16 Code. Under the bill, the person hunting is required to possess a
17 valid firearm license, valid bow and arrow license, or a valid "All
18 Around Sportsman License," issued by the Division of Fish and
19 Wildlife, and abide by all applicable provisions of the State Fish
20 and Game Code.