

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & ADVOCACY

AGENDA
APRIL 19, 2021

Committee Members: Supervisors Beaty, Leggett, Wild, Conover and Diamond

- I. Committee meeting called to order by Committee Chair
- II. Approval of minutes of prior Committee meeting
- III. Action Agenda/New Business Items:
 - 1) Request from NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board to consider expanding the age range for youth hunting to age 12 and 13 for big game. The expanded age range is allowed within the Enacted State Budget (*Part ZZ of the PPGG Bill*) but requires a County opt-in.
Guest Speakers: John Bowe, Cornell Cooperative Ext. 4H and Family Living Team Coordinator
George Gedney, Hudson Falls Fish and Game Board
Erika Patton, Youth Hunter Education Instructor
 - 2) Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks Resolution No. 2 of 2021, "*Resolution Urging the Governor and Federal Government to Expand Broadband and Rural Cellular Coverage to all New Yorkers*".
- IV. Discussion Items: None.
- V. Referrals/Pending Items: None.
- VI. Privilege of the Floor to discuss any additional items to come before the Committee
- VII. Motion to adjourn

Attachments:

- Item 1 - Email outlining request from the NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board
Letter from Basil Seggos, NYSDEC Commissioner
Transcription of testimony given by Jason Kemper, Chairman, NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board
Draft legislation from Saratoga County
- Item 2 - Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks Resolution No. 2 of 2021

Allen, Amanda

From: Moore, Ryan
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 5:16 PM
To: Beaty, Douglas; Hogan, Andrea; Dickinson, Dennis L.; Dickinson, Dennis L. - Town E-mail
Cc: Seeber, Rachel; Allen, Amanda; Kissane, Mary; Lehman, Don
Subject: FW: Information about new deer hunting opportunity
Attachments: County Leaders Letter.pdf; NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board Testimony 2021-2022 (with map and chart).pdf

Dear Committee Chairs (Governmental Operations & Advocacy, Economic Growth, and Environmental Concerns):

Warren County has been asked by the NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board to take a look at the following opportunity, which I believe any of your committees could have jurisdiction over if you'd like to take the issue up. The Enacted State Budget (Part ZZ of the PPGG bill) expanded the age range for youth hunting to age 12 & 13 for big game. It requires a county opt-in. Please see the attached letter from DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos as well as the attached testimony from the NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board. I have also copied the bill language below and highlighted the section regarding the Local Law requirement. Please let me and Amanda know if you'd like this on your committee agenda. Thanks.

Ryan

30

PART ZZ

31 Section 1. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a
32 new section 11-0935 to read as follows:

33 § 11-0935. Deer hunting pilot program.

34 1. Notwithstanding subdivision one-a of section 11-0701 and the cross-
35 bow prohibition of subdivision one of section 11-0929, a hunting license
36 holder who is twelve or thirteen years of age may hunt deer with a
37 crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzle-loading firearm as provided in this
38 title in an eligible area provided that:

39 (a) such minor is accompanied by their parent or legal guardian, or by
40 a person designated in writing by such parent or legal guardian on a
41 form prescribed by the department who is twenty-one years of age or
42 older; and

43 (b) such parent, guardian or person has had at least three year's
44 experience in hunting deer; and

45 (i) such parent, guardian or person holds a hunting license; and

46 (ii) such parent, guardian or person maintains physical control over
47 the minor at all times while hunting. For the purposes of this paragraph
48 "physical control" shall mean that the physical proximity of such minor
49 to the parent, guardian or person is such that the parent, guardian or
50 person is reasonably able to issue verbal directions and instructions,
51 maintain constant visual contact, and otherwise provide guidance and
52 supervision to the minor; and

S. 2505--C

37

A. 3005--C

1 (iii) such parent, guardian or person and the minor remain at ground
2 level at all times while hunting; and

3 (c) such parent, guardian or person and the minor shall each display
4 either a minimum total of two hundred fifty square inches of solid
5 fluorescent orange or pink or patterned fluorescent orange or pink

6 consisting of no less than fifty percent fluorescent orange or pink
7 material worn above the waist and visible from all directions, or a hat
8 or cap with no less than fifty percent of the exterior consisting of
9 solid fluorescent orange or pink material and visible from all
10 directions.

11 2. For the purposes of this section "eligible area" shall include a
12 county that has passed a local law authorizing participation in the
13 pilot program and has notified the department of such participation,
14 provided, however, that the following counties: Westchester; Richmond;
15 Bronx; New York; Kings; Queens; Nassau; and Suffolk shall not be deemed
16 to be eligible.

17 3. The department shall prepare a report by February first of each
18 year including the following information at a minimum: number of
19 violations; hunting related incidents and revocations pursuant to
20 section 11-0719; the number of counties participating; the number of
21 minors participating; and the number of deer taken.

22 § 2. This act shall take effect June 1, 2021 and shall expire and be
23 deemed repealed December 31, 2023.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

625 Broadway, 14th Floor, Albany, New York 12233-1010

P: (518) 402-8545 | F: (518) 402-8541

www.dec.ny.gov

APR - 9 2021

Dear County Leaders

Thank you for your ongoing partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) as we work to protect and steward our natural resources. I write to you today with exciting news on a new deer hunting opportunity that was included in the 2021-2022 New York State Budget that will provide new economic opportunities to your local hunting economies.

In upstate counties that choose to participate, youth hunters aged 12-13 will now be allowed to hunt deer with a firearm or crossbow under the supervision of an experienced adult hunter. Currently, young hunters that are 12 or 13 years old can already hunt big game using archery equipment and can hunt small game with a firearm. However, until now, New York had been the only state to not allow these young hunters to hunt big game with a firearm.

Deer hunting is a valued tradition for many upstate families, providing quality food to New Yorkers and reducing the negative impacts of overabundant deer populations on agriculture, forests, and communities. Expanding youth hunting opportunities to assist with deer management and cultivating a new generation of hunters is a top priority for DEC, and we look forward to working with you to realize and capitalize on this new opportunity included in the State Budget.

The program as enacted by the legislature is treated as a pilot for upstate counties through 2023. Specifically, the new law (Environmental Conservation Law Section 11-0935):

- allows 12-13 year old licensed hunters to hunt deer with a rifle, shotgun, or muzzleloading firearm in areas where and during the hunting seasons in which such firearms may be used;
- allows 12-13 year old licensed hunters to hunt deer with a crossbow during the times when other hunters may use crossbows;
- maintains existing youth hunting safety requirements, including:
 - supervision by an experienced and licensed adult hunter who maintains physical control over the youth hunter at all times,
 - requires the youth hunter and adult mentor wear fluorescent orange or pink clothing, and
 - requires both the youth hunter and adult mentor to remain at ground level while hunting deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzleloader.

Most importantly, the legislation requires each county to "opt-in". Counties comprising New York City, Westchester, Nassau, and Suffolk are specifically excluded from participation by the legislature.

In accordance with the requirements of the new law (legislation enclosed), DEC encourages your county to consider passage of a local law opting into the new hunting pilot for 12-13 year-old hunters. If such local legislation is in place and DEC is notified by June 1, we will be able to publish it in our annual hunting and trapping regulations guide. However, as long as your county adopts a local law to opt-in to the program and informs DEC by September 1, we will provide this information for hunters on DEC's website leading into the 2021 big game seasons.

I hope that your county will strongly consider "opting-in" to this exciting new opportunity to support our young hunters. To notify DEC of your local law opting into this program, or if you have any further questions or need any assistance regarding this new pilot, please contact our Division of Fish and Wildlife at wildlife@dec.ny.gov and 518-402-8883.

Thank you again for consideration of opting into this new program and I look forward to continuing our strong work together into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Basil Seggos', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Basil Seggos
Commissioner



STATE OF NEW YORK CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY BOARD

625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4800

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/566.html>

**January 27th , 2021 Joint Legislative Public Hearing on 2021-2022 Executive Budget
“Environmental Conservation”**

Testimony Given by Jason Kemper, Chairman, NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board

Good morning. On behalf of the Conservation Fund Advisory Board and the sporting community in NYS, thank you for allowing me to testify in relation to the 2021-2022 State Budget. The Conservation Fund Advisory Board (CFAB), as spelled out in the State Finance Law (Section 83 Conservation Fund) and ECL (Section 11-0327) is charged with ensuring that the money in the Conservation Fund is spent specifically for the care, management, protection, and enlargement of the fish and game resources of the State and the promotion of public fishing, hunting, and trapping. The main source of revenue for the Conservation Fund is the sale of hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses.

The sale of these licenses in New York generates approximately \$46 million dollars per year and leverages another \$25 million in federal aid. The Conservation Fund directly funds 240 individuals in the NYSDEC and another 65 positions in the Department are funded from the federal aid associated with sporting license sales.

According to a 2011 study performed by the United States Fish Wildlife Service, the New York sporting community spends approximately \$4.95 billion per year pursuing their activities. This ranked #2 in the nation. Those sporting activities supported approximately 56,000 jobs in New York State (#5 in the nation) and generated over \$623 million in state and local taxes.

Through the American System of Conservation Funding, sportsmen and women contribute immensely to conservation efforts. This “user pays, public benefit”- model essentially provides a vast majority of the funding for state fish and wildlife agencies. This system allows for the proper management and conservation of the state’s resources while providing benefits for the public at large, not just the sporting community.

I think we can all agree that 2020 was certainly an unprecedented year and there was, therefore, a significant boom in all forms of outdoor recreation. This boost was also evident in the sporting community. All categories of license sales showed increases during the 2020 calendar year. However, more importantly is the dramatic increase in requests for Hunter Education Courses, because these courses are mandatory for all individuals prior to their first purchase of a hunting license.

In 2020, there were 69,264 individuals who completed the hunter education certificate program. And additionally, 50,736 individuals have signed up for the course and are in the process of completing the requirements. To put this into perspective prior to 2020, approximately 25,000 individuals completed the hunter education program on a yearly basis. This is an astonishing 176 % increase in individuals completing the course in 2020. A large percentage of those completing the 2020 program include youth between 11-13 years of age, as well as a large percentage of female participation. In addition, there is increased participation from urban and suburban areas.

Universal Hunting Age of 12

The need to keep the Conservation Fund solvent and also to recruit younger people into the sporting community is crucial. Currently, 12 and 13 -year olds with adult supervision can only pursue small game in New York State, while 14 and 15- year olds are allowed to pursue big game under adult supervision. CFAB strongly supports the Executive Budget proposal of instituting a minimum Universal Hunting Age of 12 which will allow 12 and 13 - year olds under adult supervision to pursue big game. As previously stated, 12 and 13- year olds can already pursue small game, but the new provision will simply allow them to legally pursue big game in New York State.

At this time the average age of a sporting license buyer in New York is over 50 years of age. The Executive Budget proposal to allow the same hunting rules for all hunters aged 12 through 15 years with adult supervision would recruit a younger group of sporting license buyers. Every other state in the nation allows a person 12 years of age, or younger, this full range of hunting opportunities. Because of this, New York loses out on the economic benefits from this activity as older hunters looking to take their young people on a hunting vacation are unable to consider New York if their child's age is younger than 14. In addition, surrounding states are getting the local tourism revenue and license sales revenue associated with New York's youth and family leaving the state to pursue big game opportunities where they are legally allowed to do so. Attached to this testimony is a chart prepared by the New York Sportsman's Advisory Council illustrating the big game age restrictions by state.

The universal hunting age of 12 was supported in the 2012-2016 NYS Deer Management Plan and is a recommendation in the Draft 2021-2025 NYS Deer Management Plan that was released in December and is currently in the public review phase.

Hunting provides quality time for parents to bond with their children and other family members in an outdoor setting. These are excellent opportunities to introduce youth to nature, conservation, and responsible wildlife management. Hunting, especially at an early age, imprints in youth the mindset that game management and environmental stewardship go hand and hand. Statistics have proven that youth hunters, under the supervision of an adult, are the safest hunters afield. Starting youth at a young age with a mentor results in an increased long-term retention rate and has proven to make them safer and more responsible hunters when they are old enough to hunt on their own.

CFAB believes that the future of hunting in New York State, as well as the conservation and sustainability of our natural resources, is directly tied to the recruitment and retention of our youth. Allowing 12 year olds the legal opportunity to partake in all New York hunting opportunities will have a positive impact on hunter safety, family recreation, local and statewide economies, and the Conservation Fund.

Full Inclusion of Crossbow

CFAB supports the Executive Budget Proposal for full inclusion of crossbow use during all big game seasons. Currently, crossbow use is limited to a portion of the regular and bowhunting big game seasons in New York State.

Limited crossbow use was implemented as part of the 2014-15 State Budget. The current law requires that individuals possess a muzzleloader privilege in order to use the crossbow during allowable seasons. The Executive Budget proposal seeks to classify the crossbow as archery equipment and require a license holder to purchase a bowhunter privilege in order to utilize a crossbow.

Each year since the crossbow use was legalized there has been a steady increase in the number of deer harvested using the crossbows. The continued expansion of crossbow use is an important deer management tool, especially in urban settings. In addition, the full inclusion of crossbows will increase license sales as well as provide additional opportunities to all ability levels of sportsmen and sportswomen.

The use of crossbows for all hunting seasons is supported in the 2012-2016 NYS Deer Management Plan and is a recommendation in the Draft 2021-2025 NYS Deer Management Plan that was released in December and is currently in the public review phase.

In addition, as is the case with youth hunting opportunities, many neighboring states have provide crossbow opportunities that are more inclusive than New York State.

Aside from the items explained in detail above the Conservation Fund Advisory Board fully supports the additional items outlined in the Executive Budget Proposal. This support includes increased investment opportunities for the Lifetime License Trust Account, improving the provisions for youth utilizing treestands with an adult, and the proposed investments in infrastructure being proposed in the New York Works Program.

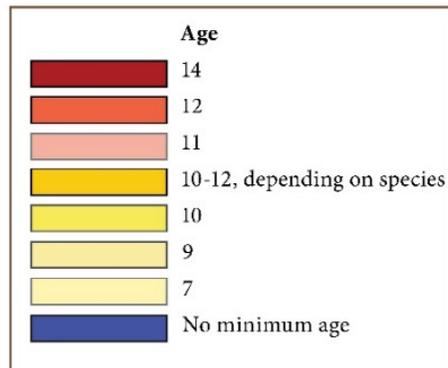
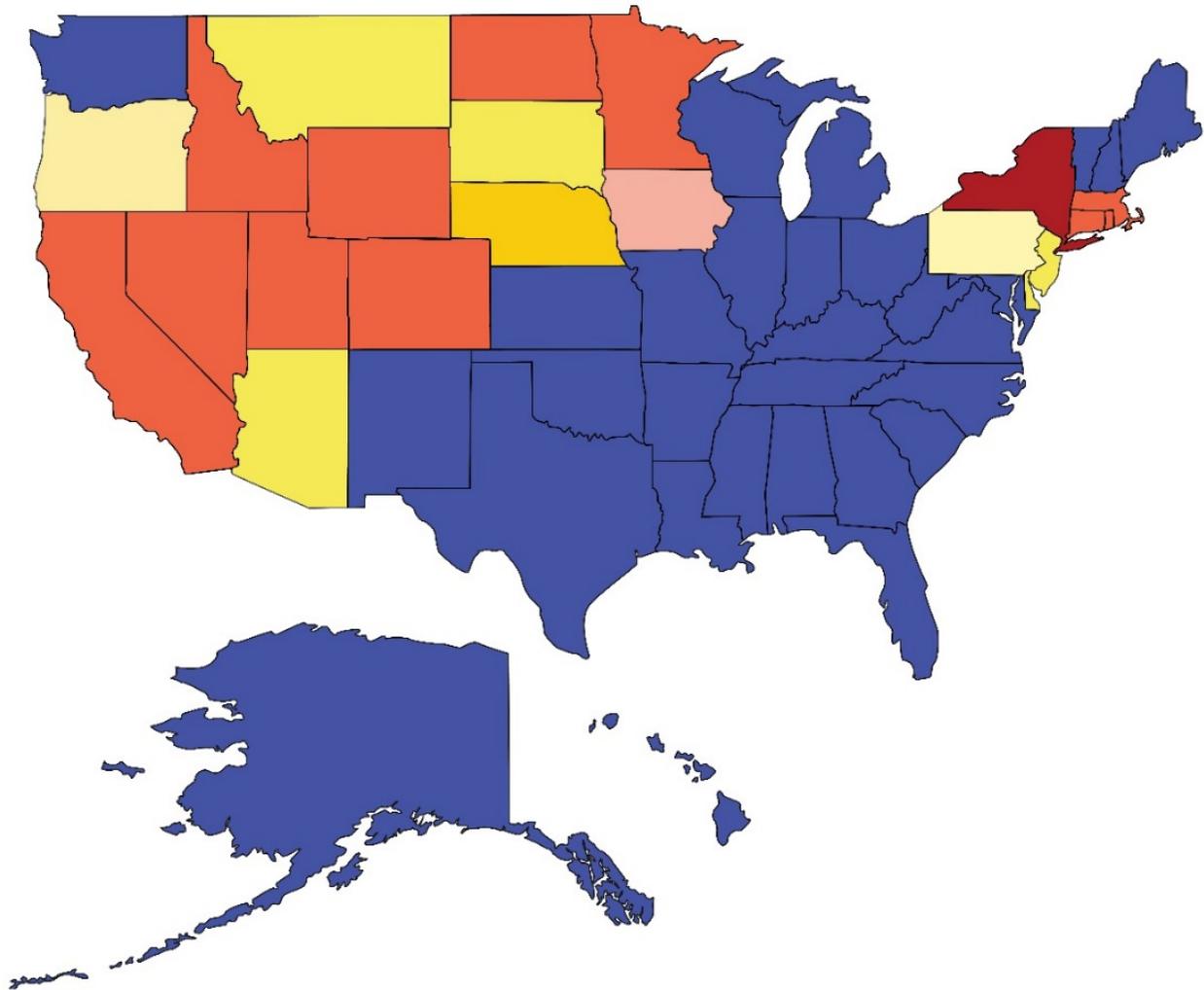
In conclusion, I would like to state the Executive Budget proposal to increase opportunities for 12 and 13-year old youth and increasing the opportunities for the sporting community will have an immediate positive impact on the Conservation Fund. However, these proposals go further than that. The sale of hunting, fishing and trapping licenses fund a significant amount of staff and management for all species of plants and animals. In essence, the sporting community pays for management of species that they will never pursue. Furthermore, the more solvent the Conservation Fund is the less dependent this species management is on the NYS General Fund. As we approach unprecedented financial uncertainty ahead, this is more important than ever.

Thank you for your time, I look forward to working with legislature on items relating to the sporting community.

Minimum Hunting Ages for Big and Small Game Hunting with a Firearm, by State

State	Minimum Age, Big Game, Rifle	Minimum Age, Small Game, Rifle
New York	14	12
Connecticut	12	12
Rhode Island	12	12
Massachusetts	12	12
Idaho	12	10
California	12	No Minimum Age
Colorado	12	No Minimum Age
Minnesota	12	No Minimum Age
Nevada	12	No Minimum Age
North Dakota	12	No Minimum Age
Utah	12	No Minimum Age
Wyoming	12	No Minimum Age
Iowa	11	11
Nebraska	10-12, depending on species	No Minimum Age
Delaware	10	10
Montana	10	10
New Jersey	10	10
South Dakota	10	10
Arizona	10	No Minimum Age
Oregon	9	No Minimum Age
Pennsylvania	7	7
Alabama	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Alaska	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Arkansas	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Florida	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Georgia	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Hawaii	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Illinois	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Indiana	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Kansas	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Kentucky	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Louisiana	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Maine	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Maryland	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Michigan	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Mississippi	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Missouri	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
New Hampshire	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
New Mexico	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
North Carolina	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Ohio	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Oklahoma	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
South Carolina	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Texas	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Tennessee	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Vermont	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Virginia	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Washington	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
West Virginia	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age
Wisconsin	No Minimum Age	No Minimum Age

Minimum Ages for Hunting Big Game with a Firearm





SARATOGA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION xx - 2021

Introduced by Supervisors Schopf, Barrett, Gaston, Tollisen, Veitch, Winney and Wood

INTRODUCING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW IDENTIFIED AS INTRODUCTORY NO. 3, PRINT NO. 1 OF 2021, ADOPTING A PILOT YOUTH DEER HUNTING PROGRAM, AND SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING THEREON

WHEREAS, Environmental Conservation Law §11-0935, establishes a pilot program wherein a hunting license holder who is 12 or 13 years of age may hunt deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun or muzzle loading firearm in areas where and during the hunting season in which such implements may be used; and

WHEREAS, Environmental Conservation Law §11-0935 requires that in order to be an “eligible area”, a county must pass a local law authorizing participation in the pilot program; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2011 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service study, the community spends approximately \$4.95 billion per year in the State of New York in pursuit of sporting activities, and sporting activities are responsible for the support of approximately 56,000 jobs across New York State; and

WHEREAS, sporting activities have a positive impact on the local and statewide economy; and

WHEREAS, public interest and participation in sporting activities, including deer hunting, has significantly increased, including the number of individuals completing hunter education programs and purchasing hunting and other sporting licenses; and

WHEREAS, the universal hunting age of 12 is supported by the 2012 – 2016 NYS Deer Management Plan and the draft 2021 – 2025 NYS Deer Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of Environmental Conservation Law §11-0935, 49 out of 50 States with New York being the exception, permitted 12 and 13 year olds to participate in hunting under varying circumstances; and

WHEREAS, hunting with youth provides quality time for parents, guardians and other mentor figures to bond with their children, other family members and friends in an outdoor setting and presents an excellent opportunity to introduce youth to nature, stewardship, conservation, and responsible wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, hunting with youth provides an opportunity to mentor and instruct youth hunters regarding safe and responsible hunting; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports Saratoga County opting-in to the provisions of Environmental Conservation Law §11-0935; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that a proposed Local Law, identified as Introductory No. 3 of 2021, Print No. 1 of 2020, entitled “A LOCAL LAW ADOPTING A PILOT YOUTH DEER HUNTING PROGRAM”, is hereby introduced before the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, and the Board of Supervisors shall hold a Public Hearing on May 18, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors at 40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, New York 12020, on the matter of the adoption of such proposed Local Law, and the Clerk of this Board of Supervisors be and she hereby is directed to give notice of such Public Hearing in the manner prescribed by law.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

INTRODUCTORY NO. [__] OF 2021

PRINT NO. 1

INTRODUCED BY: Supervisors Schopf, Barrett, Gaston, Tollisen, Veitch, Winney and Wood

**COUNTY OF SARATOGA
LOCAL LAW NO. [__] OF 2021**

A LOCAL LAW ADOPTING A PILOT YOUTH DEER HUNTING PROGRAM

BE IT ENACTED by the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors as follows:

SECTION 1. Title

This Local Law shall be known as “A Local Law Adopting a Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program.”

SECTION 2. Purpose

Consistent with the provisions of Environmental Conservation Law section 11-0935, this Local Law is adopted to authorize the expansion of youth hunting and allow licensed hunters ages 12 or 13 to hunt deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun or muzzle-loading firearm when accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or mentor.

SECTION 3. Authority

This Local Law is adopted under the authority granted by:

1. Article IX of the New York State Constitution, § 2[c];
2. New York Municipal Home Rule Law, § 10; and
3. New York Environmental Conservation Law § 11-0935.

SECTION 4. Definitions

1. “Eligible area” means any county within the State of New York that has enacted a local law authorizing participation in a youth hunting pilot program, and has notified the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation of such participation.
2. “Hunting license holder” means a person who has successfully completed a hunter education/safety course, and currently holds a valid hunting license issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.
3. “Legal guardian” means a person legally responsible for a minor participating in the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program who currently holds a valid hunting license issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and has at least three years of prior experience hunting deer as a hunting license holder.
4. “Mentor” means a person who (a) currently holds a valid hunting license issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, (b) is twenty-one years of age or older, (c) has at least three years of prior experience hunting deer as a hunting license holder, and (d) has been designated in writing by a minor’s parent or legal guardian on a form prescribed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to serve as a mentor to said minor for purposes of the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program.

5. "Minor" means a youth twelve or thirteen years of age who currently holds a valid hunting license issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to hunt deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzle-loading firearm within an eligible area.
6. "Parent" means a person who currently holds a valid hunting license issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, has at least three years of prior experience hunting deer as a hunting license holder, and is the parent of the minor participating in the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program.
7. "Physical control" means that the physical proximity of a minor to a parent, legal guardian or mentor and is such that the parent, legal guardian or mentor is (a) reasonably able to issue verbal directions and instructions, (b) maintain constant visual contact, and (c) otherwise able to provide guidance and supervision to the minor.

SECTION 5. Opt-In Authorization

The youth hunting opportunities authorized by Environmental Conservation Law section 11-0935 shall be applicable within the boundaries of the County of Saratoga upon (a) the adoption of this Local Law by the Board of Supervisors for the County of Saratoga, State of New York, and (b) notice provided to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation of the adoption of this Local Law.

Saratoga County hereby elects to participate in a Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program to allow minors ages 12 or 13 to hunt deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun or muzzle-loading firearm when accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or mentor.

SECTION 6. Eligibility and Requirements.

1. A minor aged 12 or 13 may hunt deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzle-loading firearm within the County of Saratoga when accompanied by, and is under the physical control of, a parent, legal guardian or mentor as those terms are defined by Section 4 of this Local Law.

2. A minor participating in the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program in an eligible area must be in possession of a valid New York State hunting license and valid tags, as appropriate, while afield at all times. The accompanying parent, legal guardian or mentor must also be in possession of a valid New York State hunting license at all times when supervising a minor participating in the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program.

3. A minor and the accompanying parent, legal guardian or mentor must display either a minimum total of two hundred fifty square inches of solid fluorescent orange or pink or patterned fluorescent orange or pink consisting of no less than fifty percent fluorescent orange or pink material worn above the waist and visible from all directions, or a hat or cap with no less than fifty percent of the exterior consisting of solid fluorescent orange or pink material and visible from all directions.

4. A minor aged 12 or 13 participating in the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program must remain at ground level at all times when hunting deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzle-loading firearm.

5. A minor participating in the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program must remain within the physical proximity of a parent, legal guardian or mentor which means they must be capable of receiving verbal directions and instructions, and be in constant visual contact with the supervising parent, legal guardian or mentor at all times.

6. A minor participating in the Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Program must abide by all other federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations applicable to hunting including, but not limited to, manner of take, bag limits, hunting hours, geographical or general implement restrictions, hunting seasons, tagging, transporting and reporting requirements.

SECTION 8. Filing

In accordance with ECL § 11-0935.2, a copy of this Local Law shall be filed with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. And in accordance with Municipal Home Rule § 27, a copy shall be filed with the New York State Department of State.

SECTION 9. Severability

Should any provision of this Local Law be declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Local Law as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so determined to be unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 10. Repeal

All Ordinances, Local Laws and parts thereof inconsistent with this Local Law are hereby repealed.

SECTION 11. Effective Date

This Local Law shall be effective upon its filing with the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

INTERCOUNTY LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ADIRONDACKS

REPRESENTING THE COUNTIES OF CLINTON, ESSEX, FRANKLIN, FULTON, HAMILTON, HERKIMER, LEWIS, ST. LAWRENCE, SARATOGA, WARREN AND WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 2 OF 2021

RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO EXPAND BROADBAND AND RURAL CELLULAR COVERAGE TO ALL NEW YORKERS

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has said broadband coverage is a priority for New York State, and

WHEREAS, in September, 2019, the Governor announced the Upstate Cellular Coverage Task Force, stating “every New Yorker should be able to access a stable cell connection, yet our upstate regions have struggled for too long to make the connections that are vital to everyday life and commerce... Today we're leading the way forward by establishing a task force of cellular service experts, elected representatives and environmental advocates who will develop concrete policies and help to ensure service is provided and infrastructure for it is built in a sustainable way”, and

WHEREAS, maps developed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) using Form 477 data are inaccurate and misrepresent the accessibility of broadband and cellular service and are referenced by the federal and state governments for funding purposes, and

WHEREAS, based on newer and more accurate data gathered directly from schools, municipalities, and other organization, there are large gaps in broadband and rural cellular service across rural and upstate New York, contradicting FCC maps, and

WHEREAS, the FCC staff also determined that the Mobility Fund Phase II coverage maps submitted by certain carriers overstated actual coverage and did not reflect on-the-ground performance in many instances, and

WHEREAS, the FCC ultimately terminated the planned Mobility Fund Phase II auction and replace it with a 5G Fund for Rural America, using multi-round reverse auctions to distribute up to \$9 billion to bring voice and 5G broadband service to rural areas of our country that are unlikely to see unsubsidized deployment of 5G-capable networks, and

WHEREAS, New York State has also adopted legislation that enacted a right-of-way use and occupancy fee for any fiber optic cables located in or crossing a state-controlled right of way and authorized the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) to enter fee-bearing permits with fiber optic installers, and

WHEREAS, understanding the financial constraints facing the State of New York, counties across the state endeavor to work with the State to incentivize the development of fiber connections in rural areas of the State, and

WHEREAS, our residents need access to reliable and affordable broadband and cellular service for school, employment, telehealth, and social aspects of life, and

WHEREAS, as we have seen in the face of this pandemic, broadband serves a vital need for breaking down the digital divide that creates groups of haves and have-nots within our state, and

INTERCOUNTY LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ADIRONDACKS
RESOLUTION NO. 2 OF 2021

PAGE 2 OF 2

WHEREAS, broadband and cellular access provides a critical public infrastructure need for New York residents, towns, municipalities, counties, emergency services, and more, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks calls upon Governor Cuomo, our Federal and State legislative delegations to work with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and local leaders and officials to deploy new broadband and cellular service maps in order to deploy the 5G Fund for Rural America as well as broadband infrastructure programs, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks asks the Governor and State Legislature to amend Section 24-e of the Highway Law and Section 7 of the Transportation Corporation Law to incentivize the deployment of fiber connectivity in rural and hard to serve regions of the State, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks asks the Governor and our Federal and State legislative delegations to work to ensure this vital economic development infrastructure need is available to all New Yorkers to prevent the further isolation of those in need, and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the counties of New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State Legislature, the New York State Congressional Delegation, the New York State Association of Counties, the Inter-County Association of Western New York and all others deemed necessary and proper.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Warren County government is a major enterprise and employer in the County, with a substantial payroll and a budget of \$165 million, and

WHEREAS, Warren County has numerous departments and Department Heads, and

WHEREAS, Warren County's government currently maintains no executive branch separate from its legislative body, nor does it employ a County Executive to supervise its departments, and

WHEREAS, Warren County's governmental structure is the default under the State Constitution, a default structure that has not been substantially changed since the 1894 Constitution, and which predates the 1777 Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has adopted the Municipal Home Rule Law, which empowers Counties to seek out and implement a more professional and potentially more viable and efficient form of government, and

WHEREAS, only a handful of Counties, including Warren County, continue to use the default form without alteration, while many Counties have adopted County Charters, and

WHEREAS, Article 4 of the Municipal Home Rule Law sets forth the method for a Board of Supervisors to appoint a Commission for the express purpose of studying, drafting and presenting to that Board a proposed County Charter, and

WHEREAS, a County Charter Commission should represent a broad cross-section of the community, and

RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 33, Subdivision 5, of the Municipal Home Rule Law a Charter Commission shall be and is hereby created and appointed for the express purpose of studying county governance, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the commission should not consist of any current Supervisors or current County employees or officers, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that at least two members of the Commission shall be residents of the City of Glens Falls, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission shall consist of ten persons who will be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, by recommendations that are made from the Government Operations & Advocacy Committee, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission shall consider whether to transfer legislative functions to a County Legislature comprised of legislators elected from districts or to retain a Board of Supervisors, with or without changes to the current structure, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter Commission shall consider whether a County Executive would be helpful or needed for Warren County, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter Commission shall solicit and consider the views of the community, including business leaders, elected officials, hospitality leaders, professionals, and others who, in its judgment, are invested in governance of the County, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charter Commission shall hold no fewer than four public hearings to solicit input from the public, one such meeting to be held in the City of Glens Falls, one to be held in the Village of Lake George, one to be held in the Town of Chester, and one to be held in the Town of Queensbury, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Charter Commission shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed by Warren County for all actual and necessary expenses incurred in the course of performing their duties as a member of the Charter Commission, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Attorney shall be available to the commission for legal consultation and advice, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all County agencies and departments are hereby directed to assist and fully cooperate with the Commission in its work.