

STATE OF NEW YORK

9090

IN SENATE

May 9, 2022

Introduced by Sen. PALUMBO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT directing the department of environmental conservation to establish a deer management pilot program in the town of Southold

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, the department of environmental conservation is
2 hereby authorized and directed to establish a deer management pilot
3 program in the town of Southold. Such program shall:

4 a. set and modify deer hunting seasons and regulate methods of take
5 and bag limits in the town of Southold;

6 b. allow use of firearms to take deer during the regular season and
7 eliminate acreage minimums and special season constraints within the
8 town of Southold;

9 c. regulate crossbow use within the town of Southold, including when,
10 where, and who is eligible to use crossbows for the taking of deer;

11 d. set conditions under which hunters can receive some form of compensation for killing deer within the town of Southold;

12 e. allow 12- and 13-year-old hunters to hunt deer with the supervision
13 of a licensed, experienced adult within the town of Southold;

14 f. allow 12- and 13-year-old hunters to hunt using firearms from a
15 tree stand within the town of Southold, provided it is a tree stand
16 designed to accommodate two or more persons and provided further that
17 the supervising, experienced hunter is in the tree stand with the 12- or
18 13-year-old;

19 g. allow the department of environmental conservation to establish or
20 extend, as needed, a special January firearm season within the town of
21 Southold;

22 h. allow the department of environmental conservation to regulate the
23 standards for the harvesting of bucks or antlered deer within the town
24 of Southold;

25 i. establish other incentives for hunters and landowners to permit
26 public deer hunting on private land within the town of Southold;

27 EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
28 [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 j. issue any other rules or regulations as deemed necessary within the
2 town of Southold;

3 k. regulate deer culling by qualified professionals under circum-
4 stances holding special permits, including:

5 (i) authorizing the department of environmental conservation to issue
6 special permits for qualified professionals under controlled circum-
7 stances to conduct professional culling within the town of Southold;

8 (ii) granting the department of environmental conservation full regu-
9 latory authority over the issuance of such special permits and granting
10 the department authority to establish any rules and regulations neces-
11 sary within the town of Southold, including but not limited to:

12 (1) authorizing the use of bait within 300 feet of a road;

13 (2) authorizing special permit holders to shoot from a vehicle;

14 (3) authorizing special permit holders to discharge firearms within
15 500 feet of a dwelling or structure;

16 (4) authorizing the use of firearms equipped with sound suppression;

17 (5) authorizing the use of rifles; and

18 (6) any other rules or regulations for such special permits as the
19 department of environmental conservation deems fit within the town of
20 Southold.

21 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.