STATE OF NEW YORK

7415

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 15, 2025

Introduced by Sens. C. RYAN, ASHBY, GALLIVAN, HELMING, O'MARA, STEC, WALCZYK, WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to the hunting of deer with a crossbow

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

Section 1. Paragraphs 2 and 3 of subdivision 3 of section 11-0701 of the environmental conservation law, as amended by section 1-a of part R of chapter 58 of the laws of 2013, are amended and a new paragraph 4 is added to read as follows:

(2) who is eighteen years of age or older to hunt wild deer and bear with a longbow, as provided in title [~~9~~] nine of this article, in a special longbow season; [~~and~~]

(3) who is sixteen or seventeen years of age to exercise the same privileges subject to the provisions of section 11-0929 and subdivision 3 of section 11-0713 of this article[~~.~~]; and

(4) who is sixty years of age or older to hunt deer with a crossbow, as provided in title nine of this article, in a special archery season. The department shall adopt regulations to allow the hunting of deer by the use of a crossbow to any person sixty years of age or older in a special archery season, subject to such restrictions as the department may adopt by regulation. The department shall adopt regulations requiring documentation to establish that an applicant is eligible to use a crossbow pursuant to this paragraph.

§ 2. This act shall take effect June 1, 2026. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment, and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.

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

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