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January 20, 2023

Sportsmen's Capitol Update

Committee Deadline Matrix

Guide to Testifying at Hearings and Reaching State Legislators

The "proposed bill" deadline passed, which is the period by which any legislator can file a bill on any topic. You'll note that the bill report this week is a long one. The vast majority of these bills will die or be consolidated and/or incorporated into Committee bills.

You'll also notice that more legislators stepped up and introduced or signed on to bills to lift the Sunday hunting prohibition. *THAT IS BECAUSE OF YOU!* Your legislators are hearing your voices and taking action. There's a long way to go yet, but your participation is making a meaningful impact. Thank you!

Bill Report Jan 20, 2023

2023 Environment Committee Info

The Environment Committee met on Wednesday, January 18th. <u>HERE</u> is the Agenda. <u>HERE</u> is the recording of the meeting on CT-N.

You can catch Environment Committee meetings and hearings, which convene on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, live or on demand at the Environment Committee's YouTube Channel.

HERE is the link to the Environment Committee Homepage

HERE is the link to the Environment Committee Membership, click on "Committee Membership"

News

Environment Committee to Weigh Bear Management Policies
DEEP commissioner supports bear hunting in Litchfield County

Sunday Hunting in 2023

PLEASE CONTINUE TO EMAIL, CALL OR SPEAK WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS AND LEGISLATORS ON THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO GET OUR HEARING ON SUNDAY HUNTING

Keith Cagle and Chas Catina from the Friends of Connecticut Sportsmen Board and Julie Cammarata, lobbyist, met with new Environment Committee leadership on December 27th to ask for a public hearing on a bill to eliminate the prohibition on Sunday hunting in Connecticut. While there are many battles for the sportsmen's community to fight and win, few will positively impact our member-community more than removing this antiquated restriction.

Please reach out to the Co-Chairs, Vice Chairs and Ranking Members of the Environment Committee to urge them to raise and hear a bill to simply lift the Sunday hunting prohibition. Then forward a copy of that email to your State Representative and Senator.

- Access a sample email to send to the Environment Committee leaders <u>HERE</u>, including email addresses (NOTE: Correction included in the linked sample replacing Sen Slap with Sen Hochadel as Vice Chair)
 - Please feel free to use your own words and if you represent a group, say so
 - Club Presidents are urged to send a letter, referencing the number of your club's members
 - Share this with any sportsmen you know and ask them to send an email as well
- Look up your State Representative and Senator by your home address <u>HERE</u>. Share a copy of your email to the Committee with them.

For more background and context on Sunday hunting restrictions, **check out this resource** by the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus.

The best way for us to break through the barriers that have impeded the rights of hunters is to be active and persistent as individuals and clubs. Each contact from a sportsman represents a voting constituency within the district in the eyes of legislators. When we don't speak up, we cannot be surprised by our lack of progress. We'll stop pushing as soon as we win.