

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing Section
5 2.25 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.25) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.25)

7 Sec. 2.25. It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer
8 except (i) with a shotgun, handgun, or muzzleloading rifle or
9 (ii) as provided by administrative rule, with a bow and arrow,
10 or crossbow device for handicapped persons as defined in
11 Section 2.33, during the open season of not more than 14 days
12 which will be set annually by the Director between the dates of
13 November 1st and December 31st, both inclusive. For the
14 purposes of this Section, legal handguns include any centerfire
15 handguns of .30 caliber or larger with a minimum barrel length
16 of 4 inches. The only legal ammunition for a centerfire handgun
17 is a cartridge of .30 caliber or larger with a capability of at
18 least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle. Full metal
19 jacket bullets may not be used to harvest deer.

20 The Department shall make administrative rules concerning
21 management restrictions applicable to the firearm and bow and
22 arrow season.

23 It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except
24 with a bow and arrow, or crossbow device for handicapped
25 persons (as defined in Section 2.33), during the open season
26 for bow and arrow set annually by the Director between the
27 dates of September 1st and January 31st, both inclusive.

28 It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except
29 with (i) a muzzleloading rifle, or (ii) bow and arrow, or
30 crossbow device for handicapped persons as defined in Section
31 2.33, during the open season for muzzleloading rifles set
32 annually by the Director.

1 The Director shall cause an administrative rule setting
2 forth the prescribed rules and regulations, including bag and
3 possession limits and those counties of the State where open
4 seasons are established, to be published in accordance with
5 Sections 1.3 and 1.13 of this Act.

6 The Department may establish separate harvest periods for
7 the purpose of managing or eradicating disease that has been
8 found in the deer herd. This season shall be restricted to gun
9 or bow and arrow hunting only. The Department shall publicly
10 announce, via statewide news release, the season dates and
11 shooting hours, the counties and sites open to hunting, permit
12 requirements, application dates, hunting rules, legal weapons,
13 and reporting requirements.

14 The Department is authorized to establish a separate
15 harvest period at specific sites within the State for the
16 purpose of harvesting surplus deer that cannot be taken during
17 the regular season provided for the taking of deer. This season
18 shall be restricted to gun or bow and arrow hunting only and
19 shall be established during the period of September 1st to
20 February 15th, both inclusive. The Department shall publish
21 suitable prescribed rules and regulations established by
22 administrative rule pertaining to management restrictions
23 applicable to this special harvest program. The Department
24 shall allow unused gun deer permits that are left over from a
25 regular season for the taking of deer to be rolled over and
26 used during any separate harvest period held within 6 months of
27 the season for which those tags were issued at no additional
28 cost to the permit holder subject to the management
29 restrictions applicable to the special harvest program.

30 (Source: P.A. 93-37, eff. 6-25-03; 93-554, eff. 8-20-03;
31 revised 9-15-03.)

32 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
33 becoming law.