



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB3250

Introduced 2/24/2011, by Rep. Michael Unes - Adam Brown -
Norine Hammond - Pam Roth - Jason Barickman, et al.

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

520 ILCS 5/2.25

from Ch. 61, par. 2.25

Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that the open season for deer hunting shall be extended to 21 days (from 14 days). Provides that a minimum of 3 days of the open season shall fall between December 25th and December 31st.

LRB097 09576 CEL 49713 b

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, and persons age 62 or older during the open
12 season of not more than 21 ~~14~~ days which will be set annually
13 by the Director between the dates of November 1st and December
14 31st, a minimum of 3 days of the open season shall fall between
15 December 25th and December 31st, both inclusive, or a special
16 2-day, youth-only season between the dates of September 1 and
17 October 31. For the purposes of this Section, legal handguns
18 include any centerfire handguns of .30 caliber or larger with a
19 minimum barrel length of 4 inches. The only legal ammunition
20 for a centerfire handgun is a cartridge of .30 caliber or
21 larger with a capability of at least 500 foot pounds of energy
22 at the muzzle. Full metal jacket bullets may not be used to
23 harvest deer.

1 The Department shall make administrative rules concerning
2 management restrictions applicable to the firearm and bow and
3 arrow season.

4 It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except
5 with a bow and arrow, or crossbow device for handicapped
6 persons, as defined in Section 2.33, and persons age 62 or
7 older during the open season for bow and arrow set annually by
8 the Director between the dates of September 1st and January
9 31st, both inclusive.

10 It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except
11 with (i) a muzzleloading rifle, or (ii) bow and arrow, or
12 crossbow device for handicapped persons, as defined in Section
13 2.33, and persons age 62 or older during the open season for
14 muzzleloading rifles set annually by the Director.

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

20 The Department may establish separate harvest periods for
21 the purpose of managing or eradicating disease that has been
22 found in the deer herd. This season shall be restricted to gun
23 or bow and arrow hunting only. The Department shall publicly
24 announce, via statewide news release, the season dates and
25 shooting hours, the counties and sites open to hunting, permit
26 requirements, application dates, hunting rules, legal weapons,

1 and reporting requirements.

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

18 (Source: P.A. 94-919, eff. 6-26-06; 95-13, eff. 1-1-08; 95-329,
19 eff. 8-21-07; 95-876, eff. 8-21-08.)