

MEMORIALIZING RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CHANGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION REGULATIONS – THREE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM

The Environmental and Consumer Affairs Committee (Chairman Hathaway and Legislators DePew, Harris, Meyer, Bartels, and Richard Parete) offers the following:

WHEREAS, deer populations in New York State are currently overabundant in many areas and hunting is the only effective tool for controlling deer numbers on a landscape scale, and

WHEREAS, hunter numbers are not expected to increase substantially to the high levels of the late 1980's, and

WHEREAS, impacts from deer populations, especially in areas of overabundance, affect a wide variety of human land uses, and some areas have substantially affected the ecological communities and biodiversity of our forest communities, and

WHEREAS, implementation of more current deer management techniques and harvest regimes could substantially increase deer hunter participation and satisfaction, and ultimately provide a better and more efficient tool to achieve the continuing levels of annual deer harvest needed for deer management, and

WHEREAS, there is growing interest among New York deer hunters to refine their role as deer herd managers and expand their hunting opportunities and satisfactions including the opportunity to pursue and take more mature bucks while keeping adult sex ratios in balance with deer herd health, and

WHEREAS, the Environmental and Consumer Affairs Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that an alternative deer harvest strategy that includes antler harvest restrictions needed to achieve greater levels of maturity among the buck segment of the deer population, concurrent with overall deer numbers that more closely balance the sex ratios be implemented in Wildlife Management Units 3C and 3J for a period of three (3) years harvest restrictions of three points on one side, and

RESOLUTION NO. 286 SEPTEMBER 9, 2004

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor George E. Pataki, Comptroller Alan Hevesi, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader David A. Paterson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Minority Leader Charles Nesbitt, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin Cahill, Clifford Crouch, Daniel Hooker and Thomas Kirwan, and the New York State Association of Counties, and the Conservation Council in Ilion, New York,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 24

NOES: 6

(Legislators Bartels, Berardi, Feldmann, Rodriguez, Shapiro, and Zimet)

Absent: Legislators Aiello, Hyatt, and Stoeckeler)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

Legislator Shapiro, seconded by Legislator Bartels, moved to refer resolution to committee.

MOTION DEFEATED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 8

NOES: 22

(Legislators: Bartels, Berardi, Donaldson, Feldmann, Loughran, Rodriguez, Shapiro, and Zimet)

(Absent: Legislators Aiello, Hyatt, and Stoeckeler)