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BURZICHELLI BILL TO ALLOW BOW AND ARROW DEER HUNTING ON SUNDAYS CLEARS ASSEMBLY PANEL

(TRENTON) – The Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee today unanimously released legislation Assemblymen John J. Burzichelli sponsored to authorize Sunday deer hunting with bow and arrow during bow and arrow deer hunting season.

“Expanding bow and arrow hunting to Sundays will allow more deer hunters to enjoy an additional day of outdoor recreation while helping to control growing deer populations,” said Burzichelli (D-Gloucester). “Deer hunting is an integral tool in striking a better balance between wildlife management and our communities to better protect farms, backyards, gardens and roadways.”

The bill (A-1669) would allow deer hunting on Sundays at state wildlife management areas or private properties. Current law prohibits hunting on Sundays.

“Bow hunting on Sundays would enable deer hunters to enjoy even more recreational hunting time at the more than 750,000 acres of public land used for deer hunting,” said Burzichelli (D-Gloucester). “Deer hunters spend more than \$100 million each year in New Jersey so an additional day of hunting has the potential to generate even more revenue for the state.”

The bill would require a person who is hunting to possess a valid bow and arrow license, or a valid "All Around Sportsman License" if applicable, issued by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, as well as abide by all applicable provisions of the State Fish and Game Code.

The bill also would increase the penalty for violating the no-Sunday hunting prohibition for all other animals from a \$20 to \$50 penalty.

The measure is scheduled to receive a Monday vote by the full Assembly.

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