



3/10/2025

Esteemed Committee Members,

My name is Ron Greco and I run Moose Maine Kids. MMK is a 501c3 non-profit with a sole goal of increasing youth participation rates in traditional outdoor activities like hunting and fishing and providing kids with Critical Illnesses and Disabilities outdoor Dream Adventures. We are neither for nor against.

We applaud the potential for expanded opportunity to hunt. We also, in theory, support equal opportunities for all of Maine and Maine's people. However, we are deeply concerned about how this will technically be applied. There is good supportive biology for ending the season a week earlier in some zones in the north and west. Deer are in many cases on their way or inhabiting their traditional wintering areas. This puts hunting pressure on them when they are at their most vulnerable time. In the areas that allow a second week of muzzleloader hunting, the population supports this extra hunting pressure and the deer are mostly not congregating in wintering areas.

With these things in mind, I do not believe biology and good conservation science would support having the same muzzleloading season in all zones of the State. Fairness is not as equal. We have the same inequity in season for the moose hunt where the Southern zones of the state do not have the herd to support a moose hunting season. I encourage the committee to continue to support conservation science.

Thank you for your time!

Ron Greco
Executive Director, Moose Maine Kids
207-740-0200

Moose Maine Kids
43 Sturbridge Ln
Cumberland, ME 04021
(207) 740-0200
www.moosemainekids.com