

Sunday Hunting Gains Support

April 10, 2017

After winning favorable reports in both the House and Senate committees S.415 died in the legislature at the closing of the 2016 session. Last year's Sunday bow hunting Bill S.415 had 7 sponsors all but one of whom represented Worcester, Hampden and Hampshire counties.

In January Senator Anne Gobi refilled the bill as S.433. The new bill is gaining momentum and currently has 9 sponsors. The geographic distribution of sponsors has shifted eastward with the majority of new sponsors located in Plymouth county. The new sponsors are the result of efforts by the Plymouth County League of Sportsmen. The PCL is conducting a letter writing drive targeting legislators in and around Plymouth County. Attracting new sponsors is critical to make Sunday Bow hunting at the discretion of the Director of Fish and Wildlife a reality in this session of the legislature. .

PCL President Paul Johnson has been in contact with the NRA and the National Shooting Sports Sunday hunting Coalition and other groups like the Worcester County League of Sportsmen to build support for the Bill. Johnson is seeking help from sportsmen's groups throughout the state. Signing additional sponsors. should not be a difficult task Stephen DiNatale, Kimberly Ferguson are Worcester County legislators who were supporters of last year's bill but have not sponsored this year's Bill . In Hampden and Hampshire legislative districts Donald Humason Jr, Todd Smola has yet to sponsor S.433. Targeting previous supporters is a great way to build support. It's effective and as simple as a phone call and or letter.

Sportsmen and women need to change tactics and push early and hard for new supporters. Plymouth County has been successful with a letter writing campaign conducted by the Clubs. The PCL stands ready to assist your club in a letter writing campaign. Contact the PCL at <http://www.plymouthcountyleagueofsportsmen.com/> and use the contact us link.