

50.01.14

Citizen Resolution # _____

(For Hearing Officer completion)



One Buck Per Year, Any Weapon Rule

Each year the Conservation Congress accepts written resolutions from the public, in each county throughout the state regarding natural resource issues of statewide concern. These resolutions are introduced by the public in attendance during the Conservation Congress county meeting that is held annually in conjunction with the DNR Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings in April.

In order for a resolution to be accepted for further consideration by the Conservation Congress and for public vote at the annual Conservation Congress county meeting, all resolutions introduced must meet the following requirements:

1. The concern must be of statewide impact.
2. The concern must be practical, achievable and reasonable.
3. The resolution must have a clear title.
4. The resolution must clearly define the concern.
5. Current state statutes and laws must be considered, with reasonable cause for change being presented.
6. The resolution must clearly suggest a solution to the concern and a description of further action desired.

Currently, state hunters can obtain two buck tags per year with the purchase of gun and archery deer licenses. This policy allows hunters to harvest multiple bucks per year, which results in local deer herds with unbalance, very young buck age structures (few bucks over the age of 2-1/2 years). Also, this policy results in herds with skewed sex ratios for adult deer (2-1/2 years old or older), with does outnumbering bucks. Restricting state hunters to one buck tag per year would allow more younger bucks to survive annually through the deer seasons, which would create more balance, older buck age structures and more balance adult sex ratios within local deer herds. In addition, this rule would increase the number of bucks that hunters see during the fall deer seasons because more bucks would be running around.

BE IT RESOLVED, in order to create local deer herds within the State with more balance, older buck age structures and adult deer sex ratios, the Conservation Congress should work with the WDNR to introduce a rule change that would only allow state deer hunters to obtain one-buck tag per year, regardless of the weapon specific deer licenses purchased.

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