

# HB4714



## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

**HB4714**

by Rep. Natalie Phelps Finnie

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

520 ILCS 5/2.25

from Ch. 61, par. 2.25

Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that a person may take deer with a .45 caliber or larger air-powered gun. Defines "air-powered gun" as any implement, designed as a gun that will expel a BB or pellet by spring, gas, or air charged from an external high compression power source.

LRB100 16302 SLF 31426 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing Section  
5 2.25 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.25) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.25)

7 Sec. 2.25. It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer  
8 except (i) with a shotgun, handgun, ~~or~~ muzzleloading rifle, or  
9 a .45 caliber or larger air-powered gun or (ii) as provided by  
10 administrative rule, with a bow and arrow, during the open  
11 season of not more than 14 days which will be set annually by  
12 the Director between the dates of November 1st and December  
13 31st, both inclusive, or a special 3-day, youth-only season  
14 between the dates of September 1 and October 31. For the  
15 purposes of this Section, legal handguns include any centerfire  
16 handguns of .30 caliber or larger with a minimum barrel length  
17 of 4 inches. The only legal ammunition for a centerfire handgun  
18 is a cartridge of .30 caliber or larger with a capability of at  
19 least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle. Full metal  
20 jacket bullets may not be used to harvest deer. In this  
21 Section, "air-powered gun" means any implement, designed as a  
22 gun that will expel a BB or pellet by spring, gas, or air  
23 charged from an external high compression power source.

1           The Department shall make administrative rules concerning  
2 management restrictions applicable to the firearm and bow and  
3 arrow season.

4           It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except  
5 with a bow and arrow during the open season for bow and arrow  
6 set annually by the Director between the dates of September 1st  
7 and January 31st, both inclusive.

8           It shall be unlawful for any person to take deer except  
9 with (i) a muzzleloading rifle or (ii) bow and arrow during the  
10 open season for muzzleloading rifles set annually by the  
11 Director.

12           The Director shall cause an administrative rule setting  
13 forth the prescribed rules and regulations, including bag and  
14 possession limits and those counties of the State where open  
15 seasons are established, to be published in accordance with  
16 Sections 1.3 and 1.13 of this Act.

17           The Department may establish separate harvest periods for  
18 the purpose of managing or eradicating disease that has been  
19 found in the deer herd. This season shall be restricted to gun  
20 or bow and arrow hunting only. The Department shall publicly  
21 announce, via statewide news release, the season dates and  
22 shooting hours, the counties and sites open to hunting, permit  
23 requirements, application dates, hunting rules, legal weapons,  
24 and reporting requirements.

25           The Department is authorized to establish a separate  
26 harvest period at specific sites within the State for the

1 purpose of harvesting surplus deer that cannot be taken during  
2 the regular season provided for the taking of deer. This season  
3 shall be restricted to gun or bow and arrow hunting only and  
4 shall be established during the period of September 1st to  
5 February 15th, both inclusive. The Department shall publish  
6 suitable prescribed rules and regulations established by  
7 administrative rule pertaining to management restrictions  
8 applicable to this special harvest program. The Department  
9 shall allow unused gun deer permits that are left over from a  
10 regular season for the taking of deer to be rolled over and  
11 used during any separate harvest period held within 6 months of  
12 the season for which those tags were issued at no additional  
13 cost to the permit holder subject to the management  
14 restrictions applicable to the special harvest program.

15 (Source: P.A. 97-907, eff. 8-7-12; 98-368, eff. 8-16-13.)