AN ACT concerning wildlife.

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

Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by adding Section 2.5a as follows:

(520 ILCS 5/2.5a new)

Sec. 2.5a. Youth crossbow use. An individual with a youth hunting license may use a crossbow during the first half of the regular deer archery season annually determined by the Director, provided that the individual remains under the direct supervision of an adult of 21 years of age or older who possesses a valid archery deer permit.

Youths authorized to take deer with a crossbow as provided in this Section shall first obtain a "Deer Hunting Permit" issued by the Department in accordance with its administrative rules and with the express permission of an adult of 21 years of age or older.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.