

ENACT A LOCAL LAW ENTITLED "JUNIOR DEER HUNTER PILOT PROGRAM"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

Section 1. Part IV, General Local Laws of the Administrative Code and Charter of Monroe County, is hereby amended to add a new chapter to include the following Local Law:

CHAPTER 268, JUNIOR DEER HUNTING PILOT PROGRAM

§ 286-1. **Title.** This chapter shall be known as the law "Junior Deer Hunting Pilot Program."

§ 286-2 **Legislative Intent.** The intent of this Local Law is to authorize Monroe County to permit 12- and 13-year-old individuals to participate in the new hunting opportunities pursuant to Environment Conservation Law § 11-0935. The enacted 2021-2022 New York State Budget included a pilot program expanding the opportunity for young hunters, aged 12 and/or 13, to hunt with firearms and crossbow through 2023 if a County authorizes such participation in the pilot program within their municipality via local law. Monroe County's hunters are a large and important part of our community and this opportunity would allow adult hunters the ability to introduce and teach the proper values and ethics of hunting to the next generation. In addition, teaching such safe, proper and lawful hunting methods to young people will provide a rewarding and productive experience while providing food to families across the area and contributing to deer population control efforts.

§ 286-3 **Authorizing Pilot Program in Monroe County.** Pursuant to Section 11-0935 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, Monroe County hereby authorizes participation in the temporary pilot program to allow a hunting license holder who is twelve or thirteen years of age to hunt deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzle-loading firearm through 2023.

§ 286-4 **Requirements.** A hunting license holder who is twelve or thirteen years of age may hunt deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzle-loading firearm as provided in this chapter provided that:

- A. Such minor is accompanied by their parent or legal guardian, or by a person designated in writing by such parent or legal guardian on a form prescribed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, who is twenty-one years of age or older; and
- B. Such parent, guardian or person has had at least three years' experience in hunting deer; and
 1. such parent, guardian or person holds a hunting license; and
 2. such parent, guardian or person maintains physical control over the minor at all times while hunting. For the purposes of this paragraph "physical control" shall mean that the physical proximity of such minor to the parent, guardian or person is such that the parent, guardian or person is reasonably able to issue verbal directions and instructions, maintain constant visual contact, and otherwise provide guidance and supervision to the minor; and

3. such parent, guardian or person and the minor remain at ground level at all times while hunting; and

C. Such parent, guardian or person and the minor shall each display either a minimum total of two hundred fifty square inches of solid fluorescent orange or pink or patterned fluorescent orange or pink consisting of no less than fifty percent fluorescent orange or pink material worn above the waist and visible from all directions, or a hat or cap with no less than fifty percent of the exterior consisting of solid fluorescent orange or pink material and visible from all directions.

§ 286-5 **Severability.** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or chapter of this local law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such determination shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or chapter thereof directly involved in the proceeding in which such adjudication shall have been rendered. This local law shall not supersede any other state laws, rules, or regulations related to crossbow hunting.

Section 2. The Clerk of the Legislature shall notify the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation upon final adoption of this local law in accordance with Section 11-0935 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law.

Section 3. This local law shall take effect after filing with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 27 of New York Municipal Home Rule Law.

Committee of the Whole; May 25, 2021 - CV: 29-0
File No. 21-0170.LL

ADOPTION: Date: July 13, 2021

Vote: 23-0

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: ✓ VETOED: _____

SIGNATURE:  DATE: 7/29/2021

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LOCAL LAW: 7/29/2021