WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2022 SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

ENROLLED

House Bill 210



BY DELEGATES HANSHAW (MR. SPEAKER) AND SKAFF

(BY REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE)

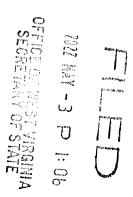
[Passed April 25, 2022; in effect from passage.]

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1	AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2	designated §20-2-5k relating to permitting the use of air rifles when hunting; permitting a
3	person use an air rifle to hunt when properly authorized to hunt under an existing stamp;
4	setting forth criteria for when an air rifle may be used to hunt game in this state; setting
5	caliber limits for air rifles when hunting certain types of game; and providing limitations on
6	air rifle use.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. WILDLIFE RESOURCES.

§20-2-5k. Use of air rifles to hunt.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, any person lawfully entitled to hunt may hunt with an air rifle during small game and big game firearms season: *Provided*, That air rifles may only be used for deer hunting in counties open to firearm deer hunting.
- (b) An air rifle may not be substituted for a muzzleloader during any muzzleloader season or during the Mountaineer Heritage season.
- (c) No person may be afield with an air rifle and bow, or with an air rifle or any arrow at the same time.
- (d) No person may hunt with an air bow at any time.
- (e) Any person hunting with an air rifle is subject to all other rifle and firearm hunting regulations according to this chapter and rules promulgated thereunder.
 - (f) Only air rifles meeting the following specifications may be used for hunting big game:
- 13 (1) No person may hunt big game with an air rifle of less than .45 caliber and with a bullet 14 of less than 200 grains, except that wild turkey may be hunted with an air rifle of .22 caliber or 15 larger.
- 16 (2) No person may hunt small game with an air rifle of less than .22 caliber.
 - (g) Air rifles may be shot within 500 feet of a dwelling.

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In effect from passage.		Ū ∷ ⇔	
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day of May Land Sund	202	2.	7
Governor		••••	

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

APR 2 7 2022

7:44 pm