

CONGRESSIONAL
SPORTSMEN'S
FOUNDATION

Attn: Hon. Carl E. Heastie
Speaker, New York State Assembly
Re: Assembly Bill 10352
Date: April 29, 2026
Position: Oppose

Honorable Speaker Heastie,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), I write in opposition to Assembly Bill 10352, which would impose unnecessary financial and accessibility barriers for sportsmen and women to participate in game meat donation programs, standing to therefore decrease both the number of deer that hunters are harvesting and the quantity of donated meat available through these programs. Hunting is the most effective management tool for regulating deer populations, but by arbitrarily requiring hunters to use expensive, largely unavailable ammunition types in order to harvest surplus meat that can benefit non-hunters, both wildlife and humans are worse off. For this reason, I urge you to oppose the passage of this bill.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

New York benefits from programs that facilitate the donation of harvested game meat to food banks and families in need. These initiatives rely on accessible and affordable participation by hunters. However, non-lead ammunition alternatives are often significantly more expensive and less available for purchase than traditional ammunition. These increased costs can discourage hunting participation, which is likely especially true for hunters that are harvesting game with the intention of donating the meat. By increasing participation barriers to hunting, this legislation is also increasing participation barriers for hunters to share their harvest with others, undermining both conservation and community support systems.

New York already operates under a robust, science-based wildlife management framework administered by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Although the DEC offers an incentive program for hunting with alternative ammunitions, the unavailability and significantly higher costs of this ammunition still limit how many hunters can participate in the program. This legislation would prohibit hunters from donating meat harvested through the only scalable method available today, which stands to further discourage hunting participation and protein donation to those who most need it. For these reasons, CSF respectfully urges you to oppose Assembly Bill A10352.

Sincerely,



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