

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2020 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 470**

BY SENATORS CLINE, HAMILTON, PITSENBARGER,

SYPOLT, ROBERTS, AND AZINGER

[Introduced January 15, 2020; referred  
to the Committee on Natural Resources]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §20-2-5g of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
2 to the use of a crossbow to hunt.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 2. WILDLIFE RESOURCES.**

**§20-2-5g. Use of a crossbow to hunt.**

1 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, any person lawfully  
2 entitled to hunt may hunt with a crossbow during big game firearms season. A person who  
3 possesses a valid Class Y permit may also hunt with a crossbow in accordance with §20-2-42w  
4 of this code. Further, the director shall designate a separate season for crossbow hunting and  
5 identify which species of wildlife may be hunted with a crossbow.

6 (b) Only crossbows meeting all of the following specifications may be used for hunting in  
7 West Virginia:

8 (1) The crossbow has a minimum draw weight of 125 pounds;

9 (2) The crossbow has a working safety; and

10 (3) The crossbow is used with bolts and arrows not less than ~~eighteen~~ 16 inches in length  
11 as measured from the leading end of the shaft, including the insert, to the trailing end of the shaft,  
12 including the nock, with a broad head having at least two sharp cutting edges, measuring at least  
13 three fourths of an inch in width.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to permit the use of bolts and arrows not less than 16 inches with a broad head when hunting with a crossbow.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.