

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2024 REGULAR SESSION**

### **Introduced**

### **House Bill 5401**

BY Delegates Campbell, Westfall, Ferrell, E. Pritt,

Adkins, T. Clark, and Miller

[Introduced February 1, 2024; Referred  
to the Committee on Agriculture and Natural  
Resources]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §20-2-5l of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, related to  
 2 moving muzzleloader hunting season to the week before rifle deer hunting season in  
 3 November.

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

**ARTICLE 2. WILDLIFE RESOURCES.**

**§20-2-5l. Use of certain rifles to hunt in muzzleloader season.**

1 Notwithstanding any other provision of this code or any rule promulgated thereunder to the  
 2 contrary, any person lawfully entitled to hunt may hunt with a singleshot muzzleloading pistol or  
 3 singleshot muzzleloading rifle, having a bore diameter of not less than thirty-eight one-hundredths  
 4 of an inch, using an encapsulated propellant charge that loads from the breech, with the projectile  
 5 loaded from the muzzle, during any established muzzleloader season: *Provided*, That such  
 6 muzzleloading pistol or muzzleloading rifle may not be used for hunting during the Mountaineer  
 7 Heritage season. Muzzleloader hunting season shall be moved from its current calendar position  
 8 to the week immediately preceding rifle deer hunting season in November. This section is effective  
 9 as of July 1, 2024.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to move muzzleloader hunting season to the week before rifle deer hunting season in November.

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