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Fwd: NYSCC Legislative/Spring Meeting

1 message

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To: CRUM ELBOW <CrumElbow@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 30, 2018 at 9:22 AM

From: Pete K <pkraay@aol.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 30, 2018 at 7:59 AM
Subject: Fwd: NYSCC Legislative/Spring Meeting
To: CrumElbow@gmail.com

To All:

The NYSCC meeting in Herkimer, NY this Saturday has painted a bleak picture for the sporting community. We all know that the NYS Assembly (104 (D) to 42 (R), with four (4) vacancies) has not supported sportsmen's causes in many years. Our firewall has been the Senate. That now is likely to change in November. Right now, because Senator Sincha Felder (Brooklyn) sits with the Republican caucus, the Senate is split (31(R), 30(D)). As of this past weekend, Republican Senators Bonacic, Marchione, and DeFrancisco, have all announced that they are retiring. Indications are that there are more to follow.

Friday and Saturday I watched upstate news broadcasts that reported that a bill has been introduced in the Assembly that would eliminate ALL shooting programs in our schools. This bill would effect not just guns, but it would effectively kill the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). It is a one house bill and will have to be reintroduced next session (not likely to move this session). If Republican losses flip the Senate you can expect that there will be a Senate bill introduced.

Another bill has been introduced in both the Senate and the Assembly that will raise the limit for gun ownership to 21-years of age. There are a number of obvious problems with that bill and many more that are not so obvious.

The problems is that while we battle each other over Crossbows, antler restrictions and year round coyote hunting, the anti-gun, anti-hunting forces have been laser-focused on ALL of us.

It would probably ably take but one more shooting to energize the anti-gun forces to all but kill the programs that we need to recruit new hunters and shooters. For years we've been sitting back believing that it couldn't/wouldn't happen. At that point it is all but certain that the Senate will be up for grabs in November, putting us in jeopardy. So it is longer an issue of gaining ground. Now it looks like the battle is over how much ground we give up.

Bill Conners
NYSCC