



Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.
P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

www.dutchessfishandgame.org

December 2014 Legislative Report

Special Note for Sportsmen/Women:

- **End of this monthly report contains key contact information** you can use to contact your U.S. Congressman and Senators, state Senators and Assemblyman, Dutchess County legislators and New York groups who support our Second Amendment Right.
- **Mr. Bill Conners** of the Dutchess County Federation of Fish and Game Clubs, author of the **“Outdoor Journal”**, offers to club members who own their own business the opportunity to purchase a **“Business Advertisement”** for \$50 in the **“Journal”** by contacting him at 845-635-1606 or conners@billconners.net. The Journal publication reaches many areas through its distribution of 3500 papers.
- **For Dutchess County Federation of Fish & Game Clubs’ Monthly Report** go to: www.dutchessfishandgame.org.
- **New York Outdoor News:** Keep up to date with information for New York State sportsmen/women. Yearly subscription. www.outdoornews.com/newyork 1-800-535-5191
 - **Important site regarding the New York SAFE Act:**www.governor.ny.gov/nysafeact/gun-reform.
 - **Important site regarding the New York State Police Field Guide to the NYS SAFE Act:**
www.nypdcea.org/pdfs/nysp_safe_act_field_guide

Legislative information:

- **Bills are tracked when Legislature is in session from January through June of each year.** “What to expect in the second year of the two-year session. New York state legislators are elected to a two-year term. On the first day of the 2014 session, most of the 2013 bills which remain active at the end of the year will automatically be carried into the 2014 session, with some exceptions: bills not carried over will include (but are not limited to) those that were chaptered, vetoed, had the enacting clause stricken, or the sponsor is no longer in the Legislature. A bill will retain its bill number assigned to it in the first year of the two-year session. If a bill only passed its own house last year, it must repass that house again in 2014, before it can advance to the other house. In general, all active bills will be referred to the original committee, with the exception of Assembly bills which passed only the Assembly last year; these bills will be reported to the Assembly’s third reading calendar*. *Exception: if an Assembly bill had a “Home Rule Request”, that bill will be recommitted, even if it passed the assembly.”(Legislative Rules)
- **New York State Rifle & Pistol Organization’s Legislative Report** site contains bills you should be acquainted with; www.NYSRPA.org....then scroll down to their “Legislative Report”.
- **Very important site: New York State Conservation Council. Look up bills and how members of your Council voted! (WWW.NYSCC.com)**

Key Impact Bills:

- **A6534/S4498-Would allow clubs and preserves to sell ammunition without the restrictions of the SAFE Act. Bill is still in Codes; in other words it has gone to committee for discussion.**
- **A06466A/S00090A-Eliminates the requirement for hunters to wear back tags during hunting season in the state. Currently only the southern zone is required to wear back**

tags, except the Catskills; the northern zone no longer wears back tags. Currently up for debate in Environmental Conservation.

- **A08790/S06589-Relates to any department of environmental conservation management plan regarding mute swans. Passed Assembly & delivered to Senate and referred to Environmental Conservation.**
- **A08857/S06667-Imposes a moratorium on any plan or proposed plan of the Department of Environmental Conservation to designate the mute swan as a prohibited invasive species or eliminate the mute swan from New York State. Referred to Environmental Conservation.**
- **A07994-Relates to the Common Core State standards initiative. Note: This bill needs to be repealed; the “Common Core” has re-written the Second Amendment of our Constitution with a negative twist. Currently referred to education.**
- **A03244A/S68A- Requires semiautomatic pistols manufactured or delivered to any licensed dealer in this state to be capable of micro-stamping ammunition; establishes fines for violations of this requirement and provides for an affirmative defense if the dealer had a certification from the manufacturer. Ordered to third reading rules CAL .58**
- **A04971A/S1946A- Amends the definition of all-terrain vehicles to include certain vehicles of up to 70 inches long and 1500 pounds which consists of a side-by-side passenger configuration for up to three passengers and which include certain safety features. Passed the Senate and delivered to Assembly – approved by the Assembly transportation and codes committee-referred to ways and means committee.**
- **A3941A- Enacts the children’s weapon accident prevention act; creates crimes of failure to store a weapon safely in the first and second degrees, aggravated failure to store a weapon safely, incredibly negligent storage of a weapon in the first and second**

degrees; provides affirmative defenses; directs the Commissioner of Education to develop a weapon safety program. Ordered to third reading rules CAL .

60

State Concerns:

According to the New York Outdoor News: Gov. Cuomo earned his second four-year term on the strength of heavy vote totals in the New York City area and other major population centers in the state, even though voter turnout was low and he received about 1 million fewer votes than he did in 2010..... But while Cuomo rode his popularity in New York City to a second four-year term, the state's sportsmen saw Republicans take control of the state Senate by picking up enough seats to attain a majority..... Steve Aldstadt, SCOPE President, stated that while the low voter turnout was a statewide issue, he was hopeful a huge turnout of upstate sportsmen and gun owners would carry Asterino to a stunning upset." **My comments:** "Locally, Republican Sue Serino defeated Democrat Terry Gibson; Gibson voted for the New York State SAFE Act. Apparently Dutchess County sportsmen/women made a big difference!"

According to the New York Outdoor News: " A healthy balance in the state's Conservation Fund is being eroded and the fund is trending toward the red, a state budget official told the Conservation Fund Advisory Board last month. But that same official, Jeff Stefanko, DEC's Assistant Commissioner of Administration, assured board members that the executive branch of state government is not going to let the fund become insolvent." "We still have a healthy balance, but there is a gap between spending and revenues", he said. "The

fund can't go into the red (by law). There is a commitment to keeping the fund in the black; our position is that it's not going to go to in the red.'" At one time showing a \$30 million surplus, that figure has dipped to about \$21 million. The decline is a product of a couple of factors: a shifting of additional environmental conservation officer salaries onto the Conservation Fund, as well as a license fee restructuring in which several license fees were reduced."...." Board member Bill Conners said the situation is a product of "a couple of counter intuitive things. We started heaping things onto the Conservation Fund, then the (license) fees were lowered and we're starting to see an acceleration of that march (toward the red)." "Board member Charlie Pace suggested a look at "other revenue streams" to boost the Conservation Fund, such as a dedicated excise tax on sporting equipment. The board has in the past push for that tax to no avail. "In some states 8/10's of a percent has given a huge revenue stream," "Pace said. Stefanko, however, said there "hasn't been a strong desire (by the governor's office) to increase fees or create new fees."

According to Outdoor News: "DEC has unveiled a new toll-free hotline to report poachers and polluters in New York State..... The toll-free hotline number is 1 – 844 – 332 – 3267. It will be staffed around the clock and connect callers to a DEC police dispatcher." "We appreciate the efforts of people who are vigilant in protecting our wildlife populations and natural resources across the state," said Timothy Duffy, Director of the DEC's Division of Law enforcement. "The law-abiding hunters, trappers, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts are important allies of environmental conservation officers and help us track and stop those

who violate our environmental laws. This new hotline will be an important tool for them and DEC as we work together to prevent poachers and polluters from damaging wildlife and our environment. “

According to Outdoor News: “ Remington Arms has furloughed 126 workers at their Illion plant, less than three months after the storied gun maker laid off 105 employees....” “Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney, R – New Hartford, stated, she heard the latest round of layoffs was a product of the winding down of the recall of Remington’s signature Model 700 rifle due to a trigger problem, she also pointed to the January 2013 passage of the New York SAFE Act gun laws. That legislation made illegal Remington’s best-selling firearm the .223 Bushmaster semi-automatic rifle.” “Thanks Cuomo for killing New York manufacturing. 126 layoffs at Remington today,” Tenney tweeted after learning of the latest layoffs, pointing to Gov. Andrew Cuomo as the architect of the SAFE Act.....” “ Remington was lured to Alabama earlier this year when several states offered incentives to the company to relocate operations. The Huntsville, Alabama package was nearly \$69 million, including \$38.3 million to equip the former Chrysler plant in Huntsville that will be occupied by Remington. That state also pledged to help train and recruit workers and Remington will also receive some tax abatements on state and local property taxes.”

Federal Concerns:

According to The Hill.com: “ Republicans’ resounding victory this week pushed federal gun control legislation even further out of reach for proponents of stronger gun regulations. More than 90% of National Rifle

Association-backed congressional candidates prevailed bolstering the ranks of gun rights advocates in both chambers. The gun lobby also has a powerful ally in incoming Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, who is highly unlikely to bring to the floor any bills that would tighten firearm registrations. The NRA duked it out with gun control groups in the midterm elections, endorsing 279 congressional candidates and spending more than \$25 million. The groups campaign efforts were overwhelmingly successful, as more than 90% of the candidates it backed won their races. Gun control groups boosted a similar outcome. Michael Bloomberg, the former mayor of New York City, single-handedly outspent the NRA, injecting \$50 million into gun control efforts through the group Every Town for Gun Safety and other initiatives. Every town won nearly 90 % of the 82 congressional races it stepped into. Meanwhile, Americans for Responsible Solutions, a group founded by former representative Gabrielle Giffords (D- Arizona) also spent millions of dollars endorsing 16 congressional candidates. Slightly less than half of their races were won. Despite the Republican gains in Congress, gun control groups contend their efforts yielded significant victories in state contests around the country, building momentum for gun control outside of Washington.” While gun lobbies can bully politicians, they can’t bully the American people,” said Shannon Watts, founder of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. “ “Chief among those wins was the passage of Washington State ballot measure to require universal background checks on all gun sales. The state will become the fifth state since the Sandy Hook shooting in Connecticut in 2012 and the seven state overall to impose restrictions. Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, New York, California, and Rhode Island already have

laws requiring universal background checks, as does Washington, DC. All federal regulations require background checks for gun sales from licensed dealers, these states extend the rules to people buying guns from private sellers or receiving them as gifts. Meanwhile, the Brady campaign is setting its sights on 17 states that have a ballot initiative process, reasoning that advocates can bring the issue directly to the voters, rather than relying on legislation. In addition to Nevada and Oregon, those states include Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. By tackling gun control at the state level, advocates hope they can eventually pressure Congress into acting on federal gun reform. We're not giving up on Washington, said Howard Wolfson, one of Bloomberg's advisors." " But Mayor Bloomberg is convinced that Washington right now is broken and dysfunctional and you're not going to get a lot of movement in the current climate, which is why we're focusing our efforts on the states," was quoted.

Legislative Resources:

County Legislature:

www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/Legislature/CLlegislators.htm

New York Senator— 40th District-

Lalor, Kieran Michael-Assembly-105th. District-

Lalork@assembly.state.ny.us

US Congressman Chris Gibson – 19th District –Gibson.house.gov

Barrett, Didi-Assembly – 106 District-Barrett

D@assembly.state.ny.us

New York Senator Sue Serino – 41st District-Sue
Serino@NYSenate.gov

US Congressman Sean Patrick Mahoney-18th. District-
Seanmaloney.house.gov

US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand-www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/

US Senator Charles Schumer-
www.schumer.senate.gov/contactchuck.cfm

Governor A. Cuomo-www.governor.ny.gov
Tracking State Bill: www.assembly.state.ny.us
www.opencongress.org

Note: public.leginfo.state.ny.us contains Bill text and sponser
memorandums; NYS laws also.
www.dos.ny.gov/info/register.htm-NYS Register lists notices of
proposed regulations.

Important Phone Numbers:
Governor (518) 474-8390
NYS Senate (518) 455-2800
NYS Assembly (518) 455-4100
White House Opinion Line (202) 456-1111
Congress (202) 225-3121
Senate (202) 224-3121

New York State Support Groups:

Shooters Committee on Political Action (SCOPE):
www.scopeny.org
Dutchess County Chapter: Chairman-Dave Warshaw-
dwars92711@aol.com
SCOPE Legislative Reports are available at this website.
SCOPE INC, Attention Legal Defense Fund Project (For
donations)
P.O. Box 12711
Rochester, NY 14612

Gun Owner's Political Action Committee of Dutchess (GO-PAC):
This is a NY Board of Elections registered Pac raising funds to

support LOCAL politicians who are friendly to our cause of
firearms civil rights. www.go-pacdutchess.org

New York State Rifle & Pistol Association (NRA affiliate):
www.nysrpa.org

Note: NYSR&PA Legislative Reports are available at this website.

New York Firearms: www.nyfirearms.com

Very important site: New York State Conservation
Council!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul W. Annetts-M.J.A. (marineactual@gmail.com)/Legislative Vice-
President

*******Distributed to all member club's with registered e-mail
addresses**