WRITTEN COMMENT RE: H.460

Received March 31, 2015

I understand that theirs is the general idea that bills should be discussed gently, this bill is so egregiously unbearable that I've lost patience.

I am writing with regard to H.460. I am frankly disgusted that this bill is even being heard. The idea that a bullet in the woods near a blade of grass will feed a mouse which will be eaten by a Lynx, and cause lead poisoning in the Lynx is so far fetched that the mere mention of such a "concern" by the proponents of this bill should have been a red flag. This bill has one purpose, and only one. To make it more expensive for hunters to enjoy and pass on the heritage. There is no excuse for this to have received any support, and a vote in favor of it is a clear statement of aggression towards every Vermonter who enjoys time afield. Comparing it to the lead shot ban in waterfowl hunting is tantamount to comparing apples to the color blue. Feeding habits of waterfowl and their concentrated nature make them susceptible to ingestion in a manner that can never occur in upland habitat. Finally the red herring of poisoned meat has already been thoroughly debunked, but they had to throw that in because "Do it for the children!" is the rallying cry for 90% of the bad ideas we see legislation for these days. When people know their position has no basis they ALWAYS plead that it's going to save kids.

Mike Covey

Williamstown