

Committee Report

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 1, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Fish and Game and Marine Resources to which was referred HB 342,

AN ACT relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms. Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Raymond Howard

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Fish and Game and Marine Resources
Bill Number:	HB 342
Title:	relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms.
Date:	February 1, 2021
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2021-0136h

STATEMENT OF INTENT

As amended, this is a modernization and housekeeping bill for Fish and Game laws. It was shown in committee that using a lever-action carbine, chambered in the handgun calibers listed in the bill, increases the overall safety in the pistol and shotgun only hunting areas across the state. This bill extends the use of those safer lever-action carbines for use in pistol and shotgun hunting areas across the state. This bill, as amended, also increases to six, the number of rounds in all firearms used for hunting, to create more uniformity in all Fish and Game laws. Pistols and rifles now can all have six rounds. This bill was highly supported by the Fish and Game Enforcement Division.

Vote 20-0.

Rep. Raymond Howard
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

HB 342, relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Raymond Howard for Fish and Game and Marine Resources. As amended, this is a modernization and housekeeping bill for Fish and Game laws. It was shown in committee that using a lever-action carbine, chambered in the handgun calibers listed in the bill, increases the overall safety in the pistol and shotgun only hunting areas across the state. This bill extends the use of those safer lever-action carbines for use in pistol and shotgun hunting areas across the state. This bill, as amended, also increases to six, the number of rounds in all firearms used for hunting, to create more uniformity in all Fish and Game laws. Pistols and rifles now can all have six rounds. This bill was highly supported by the Fish and Game Enforcement Division. **Vote 20-0.**

Amendment to HB 342

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms and relative to the
4 number of rounds permitted in a firearm used to take deer.

5

6 Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following and renumbering the original section 2 to
7 read as 4:

8

9 2 Lawful Methods of Taking. Amend RSA 207:3, II to read as follows:

10 II. A full automatic rifle shall not be used at any time nor shall a semi-automatic rifle be
11 used to which is attached a magazine or clip holding more than [5] 6 cartridges, nor shall a full
12 jacketed metal case bullet be used, either in its original form or any alteration thereof.

13 3 Game Animals; Pistols Permitted. Amend RSA 208:3-d to read as follows:

14 208:3-d Pistols Permitted. Pistols permitted under RSA 208:3, 3-a, 3-b, and 3-c shall include
15 a .357 Magnum, 10mm Automatic, .41 Remington, .44 Magnum, .45 Long Colt, .480 Ruger, and .50
16 Magnum, provided that a pistol used for taking deer under this section shall be loaded with no more
17 than [5] 6 rounds of ammunition at any time.

Amendment to HB 342
- Page 2 -

2021-0136h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows the taking of game with certain lever-action firearms. The bill also specifies that a firearm used to take deer shall not be loaded with more than 6 rounds of ammunition.

Voting Sheets



2021 SESSION

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

Bill #: HB342 Motion: OTPA AM #: 136h Exec Session Date: 2/1/21

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Lang, Timothy P. Chairman	20		
Khan, Aboul B. Vice Chairman	1		
Klose, John F.	2		
Spillane, James A.	3		
Howard, Raymond J.	4		
Craig, Kevin B.	5		
Love, David C.	6		
Wolf, Dan H.	7		
Kittredge, Mac	8		
Dostie, Donald	9		
Smith, Jonathan H.	10		
Harvey, Cathryn A.	11		
Laflamme, Larry L.	12		
Dontonville, Roger W.	13		
King, Mark R.	14		
Read, Ellen D. Clerk	15		
Egan, Timothy T. Jack, Martin	16		
Ruprecht, Denny M.			1
Shurtleff, Steve J.	17		
Ellis, Donna R.	18		
Oxaal, Ariel	19		



1/22/2021 10:00:16 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2021 SESSION

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

Bill #: HB342 Motion: OTPA AM #: 136h Exec Session Date: 2/1/21

TOTAL VOTE:	20	0	1
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Public Hearing

House Remote Testify

Fish and Game and Marine Resources Committee Testify List for Bill HB342 on 2021-02-01

Support: 11 Oppose: 27 Neutral: 2 Total to Testify: 3

[Export to Excel](#)

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Hoell, JR	jr@jrhoell.com	A Member of the Public	Myself and New Hampshire Firearms Coalition	Support	Yes (3m)	No	2/1/2021 9:55 AM
Cresswell, Joshua	josh_cresswell@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	Yes (0m)	No	2/1/2021 8:42 AM
Spillane, James	james@jamespillane.org	An Elected Official	Rockingham 2 - Bill Sponsor	Support	Yes (0m)	No	1/25/2021 11:08 AM
Roy, Terry	terry.roy@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2021 2:45 PM
McKeogh, Conor	mckeoghn054@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2021 8:21 AM
Leone IV, Nicholas	nleone05@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2021 6:00 AM
Sanderson, Paul	paul.sanderson@wildlife.nh.gov	State Agency Staff	NH Fish and Game Department	Neutral	No	No	1/29/2021 1:12 PM
Reid, Natalie	meatme@gapmountaingoats.com	A Member of the Public	Myself and my household	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2021 11:37 AM
Herrick, Liz	lherrick@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2021 3:38 PM
Hawkes, Lydia	lydiahawkes@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2021 4:05 PM
Conroy, Rosemary	hello@rosemaryconroyart.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2021 5:34 PM
Reid, Karen	karenreidreiki@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 6:50 AM
Blanchard, Sandra	sandyblanchard3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 6:54 AM
Coder, William	wcoder@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 9:53 AM
Miller, Virginia Lee	smsharps@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 8:11 AM
Wahl, BJ	bjwahl@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 10:38 AM
Freilich, Pam	pam@gmavt.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 12:18 PM
Marino, Elizabeth	bethmarino@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 1:12 PM
Moore, Trois	mooretrois@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 4:42 PM

Snyder, Kristina	khsnyder22@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 5:08 PM
Hurley, Margaret	mdaisshurley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 5:52 PM
Hurley, John	jrhurjd@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 6:00 PM
Ploszaj, Tom	tom.ploszaj@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 8:06 PM
Chouinard, Victor	vchouinard@gsinet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 8:31 PM
Tate, Bill	wdtatenh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 8:51 PM
Rauter, Linda	lcr80@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 8:55 PM
Tate, Joanna	Joannatate@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2021 9:35 PM
Rathbun, Eric	ericrathbun@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2021 10:05 PM
snyder, patricia	penguinbird2@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 7:57 AM
Kreis, Kenneth	kkreisr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 7:44 AM
snyder, john	penguinbird2@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 8:10 AM
Switzer, Bob	macswitz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 8:18 AM
Glenn, Cynthia	cglenn410@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 8:54 AM
Caplan, Elise	Elisegrila@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 9:05 AM
Patten, Betsey	betseypatten@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Neutral	No	No	2/1/2021 9:37 AM
Hannon, Joe	joehannon4nh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Gun Owners of New Hampshire	Support	No	No	2/1/2021 9:47 AM
O'Brien, Joan	joanlobrien@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 10:23 AM
Egan, Timothy	timothytegan@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 4:51 PM
Bruno, Darla	rockitgirly@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2021 8:37 PM
Richardson, Diane	Workingclasscanine@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/21/2021 2:00 PM

supports & opposes

Inbox x



Alexandra Moffat samoffat28@gmail.com [via](#) nhgeneralcourt.onmicrosoft.com
to HouseFishandGameCommittee ▾

Sat, Jan 30, 3:50 PM (1 day ago)



A big YES to HB 118 & 529. Special strong support for Silane, Read & Howard amendment

NO NO NO to HB 192

241, 342, 490

Way past time to support wild life, to conserve, preserve. Global heating may doom many species so we MUST save what we have, humanely, wisely, ethically.

Alexandra Moffat 77 Upper Stonehouse Mt Rd Orford NH 03777

Hb192, 342, 241 Inbox x



Diane Richardson workingclasscanine@msn.com via nhgeneralcourt.onmicrosoft.com
to HouseFishandGameCommittee@leg.state.nh.us

Thu, Jan 28, 10:26 AM (3 days ago)



Dear committee

Please support and vote yes on bills

Hb192 pistols for deer hunting

Hb342 lever guns

Hb241 trout

As these are all common sense reasonable bills

Diane Richardson

Springfield

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES

PUBLIC HEARING ON

BILL TITLE: HB342

DATE: 2/1/21

ROOM: LOB 210

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 10:01

Time Adjourned: 10:23

(please **bold** if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Lang, Khan, Read, Klose, Spillane, Howard, Craig, Love, Wolf, Kittredge, Dostie, J. Smith, Harvey, Laflamme, Dontonville, M. King, Jack substituting for Egan, Ruprecht, Shurtleff, Ellis and Oxaal

Bill Sponsors:

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

*Rep James Spillane introduces – on behalf of constituent. Allows lever action that uses same caliber as handgun. Narrowed scope to 3 calibers that are common .357 magnum, .44. magnum, .44 long colt. Muzzle velocity is less than 200fps. Included ballistics chart. Rifle gives you more accuracy and shoulder stock. Defers to Col. Jordan, and bill has FG commission support. This increases safety by increasing accuracy. Amendment adds the increasing of rounds to 6. Prevents accidental crimes.

Q Laflamme – Is there a reason only lever action is specified?

A Because it always has an 18 inch or shorter barrel so there is less than 200 fps difference in muzzle velocity. Pistols currently allowed up to 16 inches, so difference negligible. Level action is more common.

Q Laflamme – Why level actions, semi automatic available?

A Came back with a more refined and narrow bill. Level action is more common and narrow in scope.

Q Harvey - Can it not be done through rules? Is it method of take?

A Defers to Col Jordan but the specification of handgun versus long gun is in statute so needs to be done through statute.

*Col Jordan – Everything Spillane said is correct. Department did not support change only because of concern for municipalities. Does not cause problems with resource or safety. FG tries to keep as much in rules as possible to be agile in making changes. Rules process allows public comment. Law is more difficult. Not an advocate of regulating take via law, but here this is already in law. Lever

action was a good choice. Not concerned about carbine. Muzzleloaders have higher velocity. We don't think this will do harm, not opposed but there have been no problems in towns.

Q Klose – This is a touchy subject, towns will shut down everything if this passes? “Are you aware”

A It is a consideration

Q Howard – Is there a definition in law of carbine?

A I don't know of one, would be a manufacturers term

Q Craig – Would you agree that the general standard is a long gun chambered in handgun cartridge?

A Yes

Q Wolfe – Concerned with discussion on periphery about land closed to hunters.

CHAIR Please keep it to questions

Q Shurleff – Do you think it would make sense to refer this with HB192 to a subcommittee and allow municipalities to have voice?

A That is a concern and it would be a good idea. It could complicate it but also mitigate towns' reactions.

Q Harvey – None of the towns reached out to FG but some towns not legislation savvy, so did you reach out to them?

A We wouldn't reach out on a bill we didn't sponsor. Towns have different concerns. It would complicate passage of bill but no one including sponsors would want to lose hunting land. Referring would be a good way to go.

Q CHAIR – Rounds currently allowed in those municipalities have higher ballistic numbers so these bills don't affect safety.

A For folks that don't understand ballistics they won't understand, but this does make it safer.

-Hon. JR Hoell – Support. NH Firearm Fellowship member. Far safer form of hunting to use a shoulder stock, and velocity is similar. Also valuable to training youth. Carbines are ideal first rifle.

Members of the House Committee on Fish and Game and Marine Resources,

I am writing to you in support of allowing hunting with rifles chambered in revolver rounds in shotgun only areas. The reason that the shotgun only areas were created was due to increased population density. Firearms such as shot guns have a lower muzzle velocity, and therefore, the projectile will fall to the ground closer to the point of discharge. Several years ago pistols were added to "shot gun" only areas because their muzzle velocities are similar to those of shot guns.

Adding rifles chambered in hand gun calibers would be logical extension. While their muzzle velocities are slightly higher than their hand gun counterparts, they are also substantially lower than rifles chambered in traditional rifle calibers. I have a Smith & Wesson highway patrol 357 revolver which I can hunt with. A friend and I measured the velocity, which was between 1200 fps and 1250 fps. Great seeing you today. Here is the data from our shooting. Chronograph was positioned 10 feet in front of the muzzle, temp was 37 fahrenheit. Photos of ammo box attached.

Revolver, Smith and Wesson Highway Patrolman, Model 28-2, 6 inch barrel. (I checked the Blue Book of Gun Values and the 28-2 only came with a 4 or 6 inch barrel.

1256
1270
1187
1158
1195
1211
1156
1200
1180
1188

We also tested my Ruger 77 / 357 18.5 inch barrel. This rifle has a slightly longer barrel than allowed for in HB 342.

1696
1684
1707
1694
1682
1708
1709
1693
1700
1696

Key points, if we were to use the 130 grain semi jacketed hollow points the velocity would have been closer to 1400 FPS. Federal shows this load with a muzzle velocity of 1410:

It is clear that the muzzle velocity of the Ruger 357 is nowhere near that of a traditional riffle (2200 fps to 2800 fps).

Dan Itse

Hon. Daniel C. Itse
603-702-0381

Testimony



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

HEADQUARTERS: 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6500
(603) 271-3421
FAX (603) 271-1438

www.WildNH.com
e-mail: info@wildlife.nh.gov
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

**New Hampshire Fish and Game Department
Fish and Game and Marine Resources Committee
February 1, 2021**

**Testimony on HB 192, relative to pistols permitted for the taking of deer and
HB 342, relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms**

We write to express the position of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Commission and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to express concern with the language of these bills as introduced, and work to clarify the provisions with the Committee.

HB 192 seeks to amend RSA 208:3-d in two ways. It adds additional models of pistols that may be used for the taking of deer in certain towns in the state that are listed in RSA 208:3-a through RSA 208:3-c. The Department has determined that for the purposes of our laws, the specific firearms listed are not of concern, as they are consistent in their capabilities with the currently allowed firearms.

The concern arises with the proposal to allow such firearms to be loaded with 6 rounds of ammunition, as opposed to the 5 rounds in the language of the current provision. Our desire is to avoid confusion for licensed hunters, whether resident or non-resident, as to the number of rounds that may be loaded into a firearm while hunting. If this provision is adopted as introduced, it becomes inconsistent with the 5 rounds allowed in rifles under RSA 207:3, II, and thus induces confusion.

For this reason, in the event the Committee determines that this change should be recommended, the Department respectfully suggests that the Committee make a decision as to whether RSA 208:3-d should read 5 rounds or 6 six rounds. The Department has no position on this decision.

We offer joint testimony here on HB 342, since the policy decision made in HB 192 impacts RSA 207:3. That bill proposes to add certain lever action carbines to the list of firearms approved for the taking of wildlife. As with the pistols noted in HB 192, the Department has determined that the specific firearms listed are not of concern under our laws, as they are consistent in their capabilities with the currently allowed firearms. The same concern arises for confusion, because RSA 207:3, II limits the rifles approved in RSA 207:3, I to 5 cartridges. One can imagine the confusion for a hunter who would be allowed to hunt with a pistol carrying 6 rounds, while on the same day also carrying a rifle limited to 5 cartridges.

For this reason, in the event the Committee determines that a change to allow lever-action carbines should be recommended, the Department respectfully suggests that the Committee also make a decision as to whether RSA 207:3, II should read 5 rounds or 6 six cartridges. The Department has no position on this decision.

REGION 1

629B Main Street
Lancaster, NH 03584-3612
(603) 788-3164
FAX (603) 788-4823
email: reg1@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 2

PO Box 417
New Hampton, NH 03256
(603) 744-5470
FAX (603) 744-6302
email: reg2@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 3

225 Main Street
Durham, NH 03824-4732
(603) 868-1095
FAX (603) 868-3305
email: reg3@wildlife.nh.gov

REGION 4

15 Ash Brook Court
Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-9669
FAX (603) 352-8798
email: reg4@wildlife.nh.gov

In the interest of reducing confusion for hunters, we also recommend that RSA 207:3, I be amended to specifically refer to RSA 208:3 through 3-d so that the reader may quickly and accurately determine the "...area where hunting is limited to handgun or pistol,...".

In summary, in the event these two bills are to be recommended for passage, we request that the policy decision be made as to whether 5 rounds or cartridges, or 6 rounds or cartridges shall become the standard in these two statutes, and further that the sections affected by these two bills be reviewed together by the committee in an effort to maintain consistency and reduce confusion for hunters. We also note that the relevant statutes only apply in the municipalities named in RSA 208:3 through RSA 208:3-c. The Department has not notified those municipalities of the content of these bills, and takes no position as to the potential for impact upon those communities. This committee may wish to consider whether these proposals should be referred to the House Municipal and County Government committee for additional review and comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul G. Sanderson
NH Fish and Game Department
603-271-1136.

Range (yds):	
	25
	50
	75
	100
	125
	150
	175
	200
	225
	250

Range (yds):

357 Mag Federal Fusion 158 gr (rifle)

357 Mag Federal Fusion 158 gr (handgun)

44 Magnum Federal Fusion 240 gr (handgun)

50 cal, 295 gr Powerbelt, 100 gr charge

44 Magnum Federal Fusion 240 gr (rifle)

45 Colt Federal 225 gr (handgun)

45 Colt Federal 225 gr (rifle)

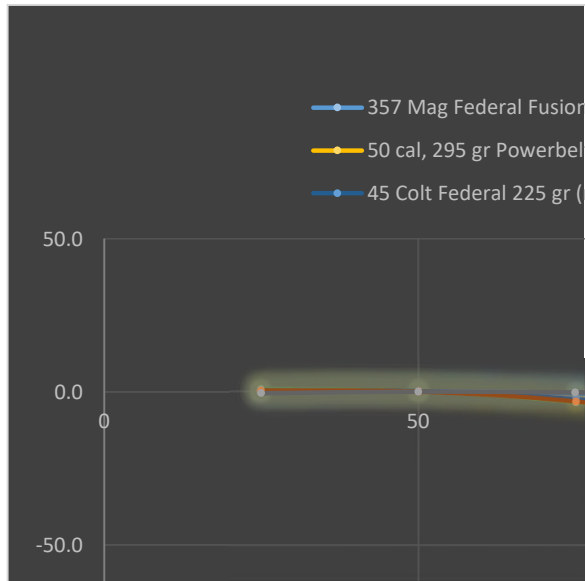
Hornady 1 oz. rifled slug

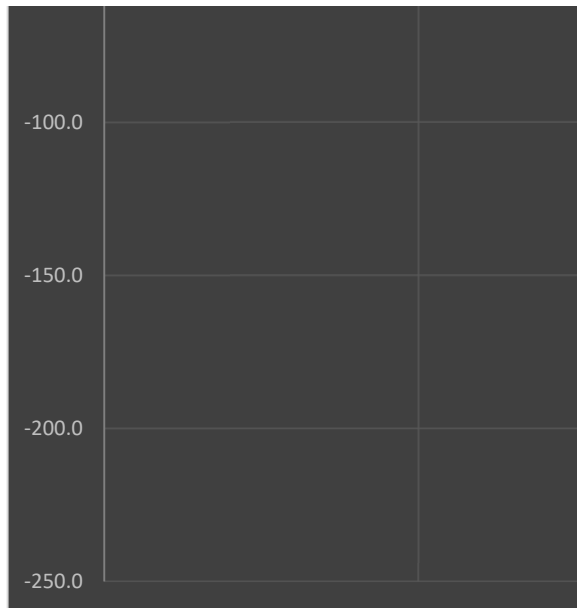
Hornady 300 gr SST Sabot Slug

Cartridge:
357 Mag Federal Fusion 158 gr (rifle)
357 Mag Federal Fusion 158 gr (handgun)
44 Magnum Federal Fusion 240 gr (handgun)
45 Magnum Federal Fusion 240 gr (rifle)
45 Colt Federal 225 gr (handgun)
46 Colt Federal 225 gr (rifle)
Hornady 1 oz. rifled slug
Hornady 300 gr SST Sabot Slug
50 cal, 295 gr Powerbelt, 100 gr charge

357 Mag Federal Fusion 158 gr (rifle)	357 Mag Federal Fusion 158 gr (handgun)
-0.4	0.0
0.0	0.0
-0.5	-1.7
-2.0	-5.1
-4.5	-10.5
-8.2	-17.8
-13.1	-27.3
-19.5	-39.1
-27.9	-53.1
-37.6	-69.6

25	50
-0.4	0.0
0.0	0.0
0.0	0.0
-0.29	0
-0.3	0.0
0.7	0.0
0.3	0.0
0.2	-0.1
-0.5	0.0

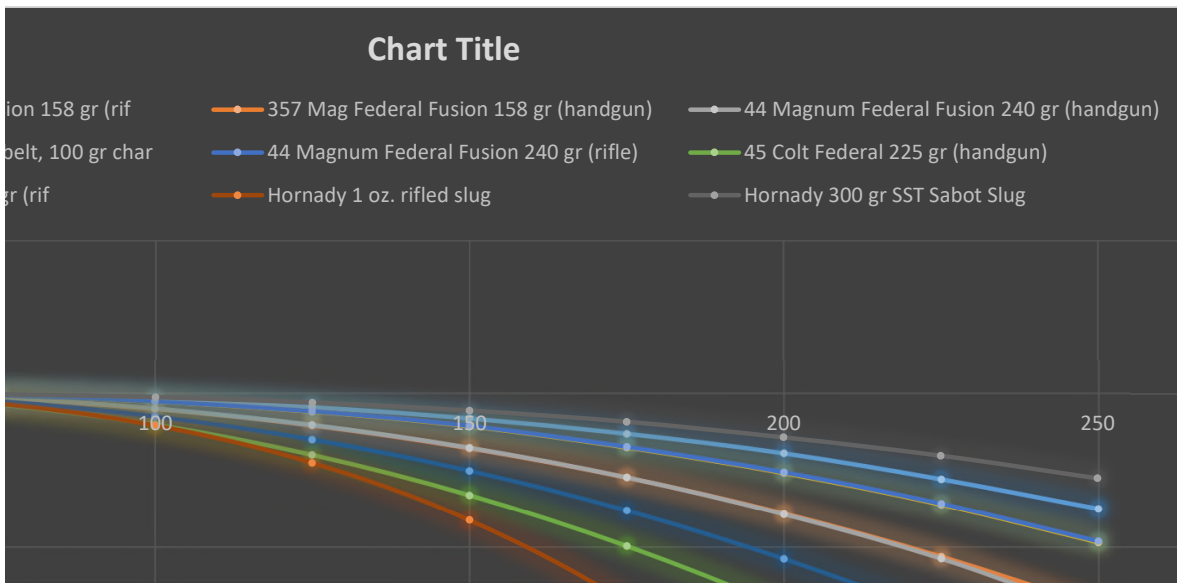


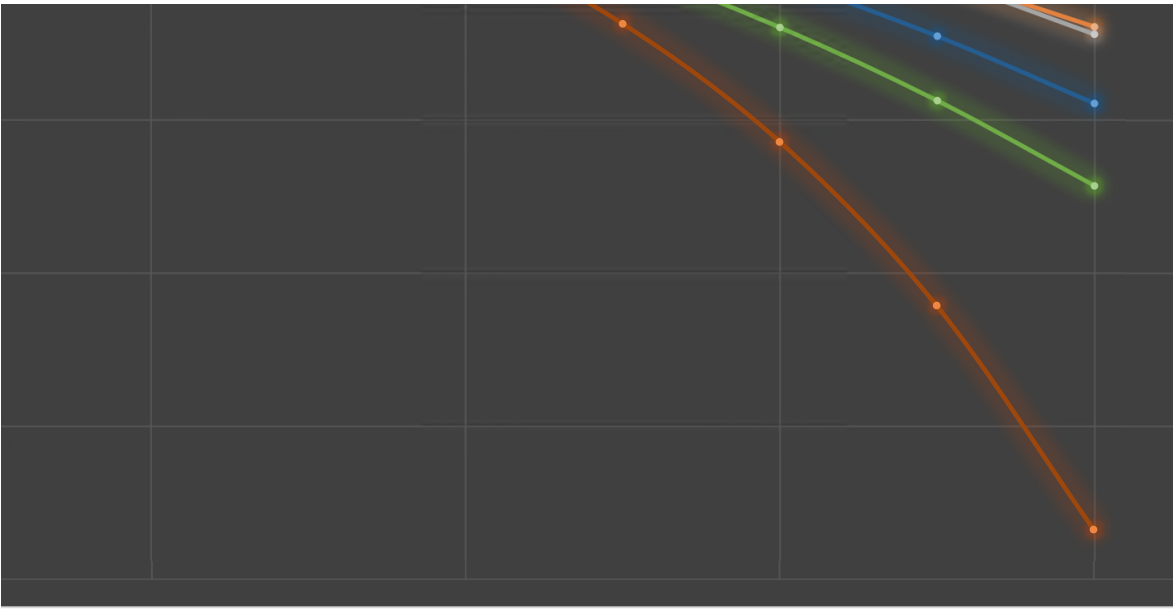


MPBR (8" target):
181 yards
138 yards
139 yards
166 yards
106 yards
120 yards
107 yards
202 yards
165 yards

Ballistic Trajectory Data (50 yd zero)	
44 Magnum Federal Fusion 240 gr (handgun)	44 Magnum Federal Fusion 240 gr (rifle)
0.0	-0.3
0.0	0.0
-1.6	-0.7
-5.0	-2.6
-10.3	-5.9
-17.7	-10.6
-27.3	-17.4
-39.3	-25.6
-53.8	-35.9
-72.1	-48.2

	Ballistic trajectory
75	100
-0.5	-2.0
-1.7	-5.1
-1.6	-5.0
-0.76	-2.7
-0.7	-2.6
-3.5	-10.2
-2.6	-7.5
-3.3	-10.4
-0.2	-1.2

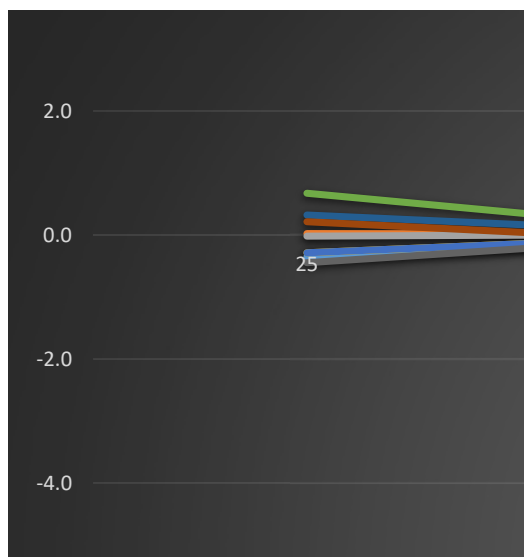
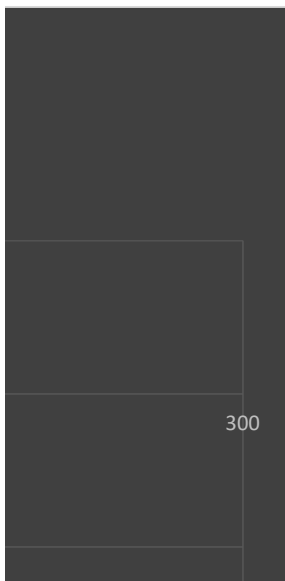


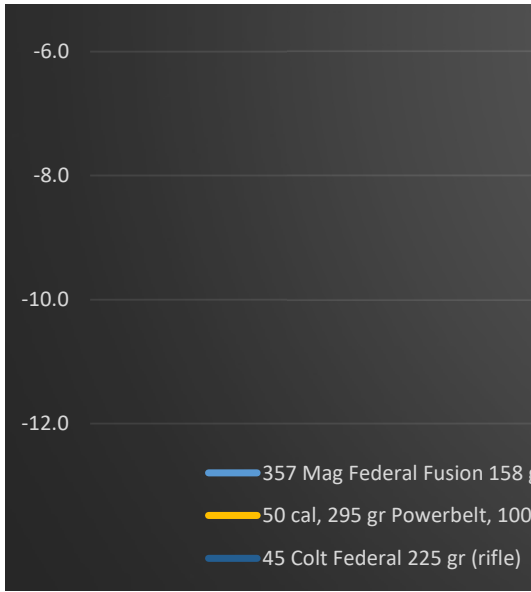
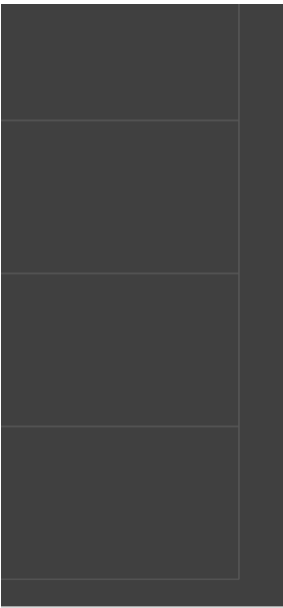


45 Colt Federal 225 gr (handgun)	45 Colt Federal 225 gr (rifle)
0.7	0.3
0.0	0.0
-3.5	-2.6
-10.2	-7.5
-20.0	-15.0
-33.1	-25.2
-49.7	-38.1
-69.9	-53.9
-93.8	-72.7
-121.5	-94.7

rajjectory data (50 y

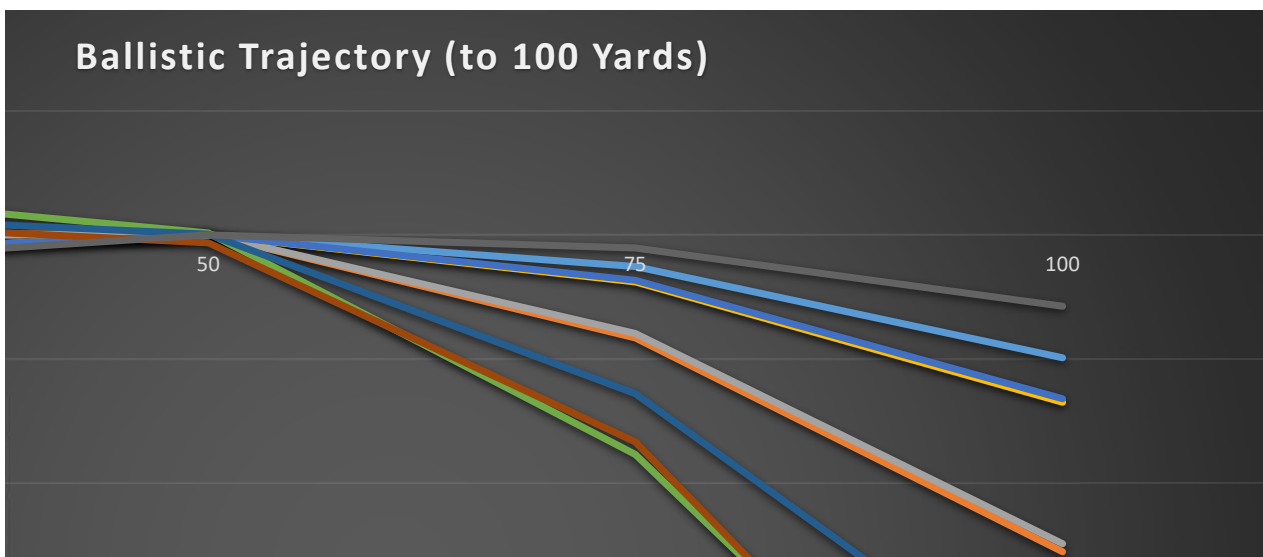
125	150
-4.5	-8.2
-10.5	-17.8
-10.3	-17.7
-5.96	-10.7
-5.9	-10.6
-20.0	-33.1
-15.0	-25.2
-22.5	-41.2
-2.9	-5.5

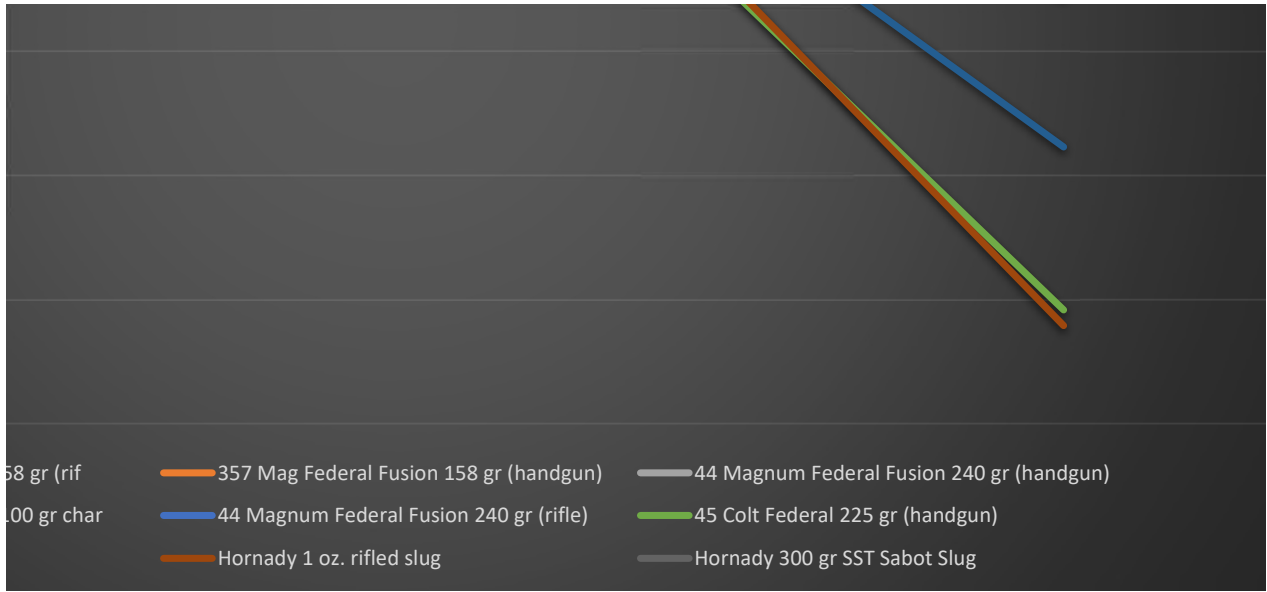




Hornady 1 oz. Rifled Slug	Hornady 300 gr SST Sabot Slug	50 cal, 295 gr Powerbelt, 100 gr charge
0.2	-0.5	-0.3
-0.1	0.0	0.0
-3.3	-0.2	-0.8
-10.4	-1.2	-2.7
-22.5	-2.9	-6.0
-41.2	-5.5	-10.7
-68.5	-9.2	-17.6
-107.1	-14.2	-25.9
-160.6	-20.3	-36.1
-233.8	-27.6	-48.5

175	200	225
-13.1	-19.5	-27.9
-27.3	-39.1	-53.1
-27.3	-39.3	-53.8
-17.57	-25.88	-36.14
-17.4	-25.6	-35.9
-49.7	-69.9	-93.8
-38.1	-53.9	-72.7
-68.5	-107.1	-160.6
-9.2	-14.2	-20.3





250
-37.6
-69.6
-72.1
-48.5
-48.2
-121.5
-94.7
-233.8
-27.6





Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 1:35:38 PM

From: [josh cresswell](#)

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:46:21 AM

To: ~House Fish and Game Committee

Subject: Fw: Calculations for handgun cartridges in carbines

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

[To change fish and game law in Southern NH.docx](#)  [Cartridge ballistic path chart.xlsx](#) 

Please find the attached documents as reference to HB 342 showing ballistic comparisons for certain handgun ammunition vs. shotgun and muzzleloader.

These documents are submitted as testimony for HB 342

Attached is the write up I did on the use of handgun cartridges in carbines/rifles, with included graphs and tables. You can pass it along to your friend as is, or feel free to edit it for brevity (my mind was struggling a few times to get my point across in a few words). For shits and giggles, I included the excel spreadsheet with the raw data. I hope it helps.

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information provided by Kyle Bassler, Derry NH

Archived: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:29:08 PM
From: [josh cresswell](#)
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:57:23 AM
To: ~House Fish and Game Committee
Subject: Updated Ballistic information
Importance: Normal

Submitted as testimony for HB 342

This is an updated the chart to include data from a 12" barrel, as looking at Thompson Center's website that barrel length was common between all three calibers, and the different from 12" to 18" (which was the actual upper limit for the lever guns, not 20"), was negligible. Please note the similarity of the numbers between the pistol and rifle ballistics, showing no great increase in performance. There is an advantage with carbines/rifles in regards to a longer sight radius and improved accuracy at these ranges which will increase the safety of firing said firearms and improving the likelihood of a swift humane kill. Also note that even in the longer barreled rifle ballistics the velocity and energy are still much less than the currently legal shotgun and muzzleloader performances at similar ranges.

Allowing the use of certain carbines and rifles utilizing approved pistol cartridges does not increase the hazard but will help hunters harvest game using safer and more humane methods.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Cresswell
52 Range Rd
Deerfield, NH 03037
603-490-4297

Cartridge	Muzzle Vel. (fps)	Vel. @ 50 yds (fps)	Muzzle energy (ft/lbs)	Energy @ 50 yds (ft/lbs)
44 Magnum (Rifle)	1643	1456	1438	1130
44 Magnum (Revolver)	1290	1160	887	717
44 Magnum (12" Contender)	1579	1400	1329	1044
357 Magnum (Rifle)	1739	1586	1061	882
357 Magnum (Revolver)	1240	1146	539	461
357 Magnum (12" Contender)	1654	1507	960	797
45 Colt (Rifle)	1042	980	542	480
45 Colt (Revolver)	900	862	405	371
45 Colt (12" Contender)	1005	951	505	452
12 ga 1oz slug	1600	1210	2484	1420
12 ga sabot slug	2000	1816	2664	2196
50 cal muzzleloader (sabot)	1630	1448	1740	1373

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Ballistic data provided by Kyle Bassler, Derry, NH

Archived: Friday, July 16, 2021 11:30:22 AM

From: [dan williams](#)

Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 5:04:19 PM

To: [~House Fish and Game Committee](#)

Subject: RE: HB 342 and HB 490

Importance: Normal

I've been a resident of Concord since moving here from VT in 2006 and am a lifelong hunter, angler, and member of various conservation organizations. I'm writing to try and get more information on the aforementioned bills, and to add my thoughts:

HB 342

I can sort of see both sides of the argument on this one, but am in favor of it. As a hunter in Concord, I've long wondered why I'm not allowed to use my Ruger M77, chambered for 280 Remington, during deer season, and have to opt instead for my Remington 870 and Accutip slugs. They do the job, mind you, but my M77 is a tack-driver in terms of accuracy and thus, more ethical and humane. The reason I wonder is because I'm still allowed to use my M77 for bear in September, and other center-fire cartridges for coyotes all winter long. So the "shotgun-town" designation in Concord has always puzzled me. I hunt some of the largest tracts of undeveloped land in Merrimack country - within the borders Concord. That's why this bill interests me. Since the calibers mentioned in the bill are already legal, why not allow hunters to use a delivery system that is more accurate (long rifle, vs pistol?). I get that lever action rifles have a longer effective range than pistols, and that some of the aversion to this bill may stem from the fact that some might think lever guns "more dangerous." But who are they kidding? If they're real aim is "safety" (as I suspect is the reason for not permitting high powered rifles during deer season), then why do they allow high powered rifles for Bear and coyotes? I would argue that there's apt to be just as many - if not more - hikers, mt. bikers, etc. in the woods during September bear season as there are during the November rifle season. So, to conclude, I'm in favor of this bill, and can you please explain to me why this is even an issue at all, given the hypocrisy of the "no centerfire rifles for deer" rule in Concord?

HB 490

This one I'm not so sure about. One of the conservation groups I'm a member of authored a position on live action game cameras some years ago, and came out against them, along with use of drones for hunting and "remote rifles." As I understand it, the legislation that was arrived at as a result, and is currently the law, is that you can use them, but that you can't "hunt/harvest an animal in an area where you are currently using a live action cam" within a certain period of time from getting a pic from said cam. I don't remember if it's 24 or 48 hours. That law is flat-out unenforceable, so I'm not in favor of it as it stands. But I also think that live action cams blur the lines between what's ethical. I know this is a can of worms, because if we decide that these aren't ethical - what next, isn't ethical? But on the other hand, if we decide these are ok, what's next - a bill to rewrite the laws about using drones. There's many times I've walked the edge of a cornfield and wished I could just fly a drone over the whole damn thing to see exactly where that bear is plopping down in the middle of the field to eat corn, and exactly the route they're taking to and from - but that to me, would be unethical and I think that in some areas of F&G law, we should value real knowledge of our quarry, it's habits and habitat, over the newest "shiny object" from the sporting goods manufacturers. So I'd love to hear more about the reasoning behind this bill.

Sincerely,

Dan Williams

Concord, NH

Archived: Friday, July 16, 2021 11:30:22 AM
From: [Elise Caplan](#)
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:20:33 AM
To: [~House Fish and Game Committee](#)
Subject: Opposing HB 342- public- Elise Caplan
Importance: Normal

I oppose taking game with a lever action rifle in any area where hunting is restricted to handgun or pistol.

Quick kills are rare, and many animals suffer prolonged, painful deaths when hunters severely injure but fail to kill them.

Hunters' intended targets aren't the only ones who suffer. Hunting accidents destroy property and injure and kill horses, cows, dogs, cats, hikers, and other hunters. According to the International Hunter Education Association, there are dozens of deaths and hundreds of injuries attributed to hunting in the U.S. every year—and that number only includes incidents involving humans.

Sport" hunting also exacerbates other problems. For example, the transfer of captive-bred deer and elk between states so that hunters can kill them is believed to have contributed to the epidemic spread of chronic wasting disease (CWD), a fatal neurological illness in deer and elk that has been compared to mad cow disease. As a result, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has given state wildlife agencies millions of dollars to "manage" deer and elk populations. While the USDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention claim that CWD has no relationship to any similar diseases that affect humans or farmed animals, the slaughter of deer and elk continues.

Hunting also disrupts migration and hibernation patterns and destroys families. For animals such as wolves and geese, who mate for life and live in close-knit family units, hunting can devastate entire communities.

The fear and the inescapable, earsplitting noises from the gunfire and other commotion that hunters create cause hunted animals to suffer tremendous stress. This severely compromises their routine and their eating habits, making it hard for them to store the fat and energy that they need to survive the winter. Loud noises can also disrupt mating rituals and can cause parent animals to flee their dens and nests, leaving their young vulnerable to natural predators.

Hunters, however, strive to kill the animals they would like to hang over the fireplace—usually the largest, most robust animals, who are needed to keep the gene pool strong. Most federal and state agencies that are charged with managing wildlife refuges, national forests, state parks, and other public lands are funded in part by hunting

and fishing activities, so agency personnel often go out of their way to encourage these activities rather than regulate or police them.

I wrote both in my words and by written academic papers.

Thank you for your attention to this grave and critical matter.

Elise Caplan

Archived: Friday, July 16, 2021 11:30:22 AM
From: [josh cresswell](#)
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 8:57:23 AM
To: ~House Fish and Game Committee
Subject: Updated Ballistic information
Response requested: No
Importance: Normal

Submitted as testimony for HB 342

This is an updated the chart to include data from a 12" barrel, as looking at Thompson Center's website that barrel length was common between all three calibers, and the different from 12" to 18" (which was the actual upper limit for the lever guns, not 20"), was negligible. Please note the similarity of the numbers between the pistol and rifle ballistics, showing no great increase in performance. There is an advantage with carbines/rifles in regards to a longer sight radius and improved accuracy at these ranges which will increase the safety of firing said firearms and improving the likelihood of a swift humane kill. Also note that even in the longer barreled rifle ballistics the velocity and energy are still much less than the currently legal shotgun and muzzleloader performances at similar ranges.

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Joshua Cresswell
52 Range Rd
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50 cal muzzleloader (sabot)	1630	1448	1740	1373

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Ballistic data provided by Kyle Bassler, Derry, NH

Archived: Friday, July 16, 2021 11:30:22 AM

From: Daniel Itse

Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:14:12 PM

To: ~House Fish and Game Committee

Subject: HB342 relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms

Importance: Normal

Members of the House Committee on Fish and Game and Marine Resources,

I am writing to you in support of allowing hunting with rifles chambered in revolver rounds in shotgun only areas. The reason that the shotgun only areas were created was due to increased population density. Firearms such as shot guns have a lower muzzle velocity, and therefore, the projectile will fall to the ground closer to the point of discharge. Several years ago pistols were added to "shot gun" only areas because their muzzle velocities are similar to those of shot guns.

Adding rifles chambered in hand gun calibers would be logical extension. While their muzzle velocities are slightly higher than their hand gun counterparts, they are also substantially lower than rifles chambered in traditional rifle calibers. I have a Smith & Wesson highway patrol 357 revolver which I can hunt with. A friend and I measured the velocity, which was between 1200 fps and 1250 fps. Great seeing you today. Here is the data from our shooting. Chronograph was positioned 10 feet in front of the muzzle, temp was 37 fahrenheit. Photos of ammo box attached.

Revolver, Smith and Wesson Highway Patrolman, Model 28-2, 6 inch barrel. (I checked the Blue Book of Gun Values and the 28-2 only came with a 4 or 6 inch barrel.

1256
1270
1187
1158
1195
1211
1156
1200
1180
1188

We also tested my Ruger 77 / 357 18.5 inch barrel. This rifle has a slightly longer barrel than allowed for in HB 342.

1696
1684
1707
1694
1682
1708
1709
1693
1700
1696

Key points, if we were to use the 130 grain semi jacketed hollow points the velocity would have been closer to 1400 FPS. Federal shows this load with a muzzle velocity of 1410:

It is clear that the muzzle velocity of the Ruger 357 is nowhere near that of a traditional riffle (2200 fps to 2800 fps).

Dan Itse
Hon. Daniel C. Itse
603-702-0381

Archived: Friday, July 16, 2021 11:30:22 AM
From: [Diane Richardson](#)
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 10:26:32 AM
To: ~House Fish and Game Committee
Subject: Hb192, 342, 241
Importance: Normal

Dear committee
Please support and vote yes on bills
Hb192 pistols for deer hunting
Hb342 lever guns
Hb241 trout

As these are all common sense reasonable bills

Diane Richardson
Springfield

Bill as
Introduced

HB 342 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0348
04/05

HOUSE BILL **342**

AN ACT relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms.

SPONSORS: Rep. Spillane, Rock. 2; Rep. Pearl, Merr. 26; Rep. Roy, Rock. 32; Rep. Verville, Rock. 2; Rep. Love, Rock. 6

COMMITTEE: Fish and Game and Marine Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill allows the taking of game with certain lever-action firearms.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in **bold italics**.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

21-0348
04/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to the taking of game by certain lever-action firearms.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Fish and Game; Lawful Methods of Taking. Amend RSA 207:3, I to read as follows:

I. Wildlife shall be taken in the daytime between 1/2 hour before sunrise and 1/2 hour after sunset with a gun, firearm, muzzleloader, or air rifle, fired at arm's length, [~~or~~] bow and arrow or crossbow, **or a lever-action carbine chambered in .357, .44 Magnum, or .45 Colt in any area where hunting is restricted to handgun or pistol**, unless otherwise specifically permitted. An air rifle may be used to take small game but shall not be used to take moose, bear, turkey, or deer. The executive director shall specify the method and manner of taking small game with an air rifle in rules adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.