

CONSENT CALENDAR

January 31, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Fish and Game and Marine Resources to which was referred HB 1230-FN,

AN ACT permitting online presentation of deer for registration. Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Timothy Lang

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Fish and Game and Marine Resources
Bill Number:	HB 1230-FN
Title:	permitting online presentation of deer for registration.
Date:	January 31, 2022
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2022-0021h

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill enables the Fish and Game Department (F&G) to allow online deer registrations. The bill as amended pushes off the implementation date until 2023. This will give F&G more time to create and implement the online registration system.

Vote 20-0.

Rep. Timothy Lang
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

HB 1230-FN, permitting online presentation of deer for registration. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Timothy Lang for Fish and Game and Marine Resources. This bill enables the Fish and Game Department (F&G) to allow online deer registrations. The bill as amended pushes off the implementation date until 2023. This will give F&G more time to create and implement the online registration system. **Vote 20-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Amendment to HB 1230-FN

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after section 1 with the following:

2

3 2 New Section; Game Animals; Transportation of Deer; Online Registration. Amend RSA 208
4 by inserting after section 15-g the following new section:

5 208:15-h Online Deer Registration. The executive director shall cause to be established an
6 online registration system on or before September 1, 2023 for the purpose of registering deer killed
7 in the state. The executive director shall act as the registration agent for deer registered through
8 the online registration system. The requirements, procedures, and fees for online registration shall
9 be similar to those used at deer registration stations. The executive director shall adopt rules
10 pursuant to RSA 541-A specifying the necessary requirements, procedures, and fees for the use of
11 the online registration system.

12 3 Emergency Closure; Limitation on Availability. The executive director may, by administrative
13 rule adopted pursuant to RSA 541-A, limit the availability of online registration on days designated
14 for biological sample collection and suspend online registration in the event of a wildlife or public
15 health emergency, with the consent of the commission.

16 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

HB1230-FN – Online Deer Registration – OTP/A Amendment 2022-0021h – Vote 20-0 on Consent

Full Committee recommends OTP/A - Chairman Lang for the Committee - This bill allows for the Fish and Game department to allow for Online Deer registrations. the Amendment just pushes off the implementation date until 2023 to give the Agency time to implement.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1230-FN

BILL TITLE: permitting online presentation of deer for registration.

DATE: January 14, 2022

LOB ROOM: 305 - 307

MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Moved by Rep. Lang

Seconded by Rep. Egan

AM Vote: 20-0

Amendment # 2022-0021h

Moved by Rep. Lang

Seconded by Rep. Egan

Vote: 20-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Ellen Read, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE SESSION on

BILL TITLE: HB1230 permitting online presentation of deer for registration

DATE: 1/14/22

LOB ROOM: 307

MOTION: (Please check one box)

X OTP ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Lang _____ Secoded by Rep. _____ Egan _____ Vote:

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) X Adoption of Amendment # 0021h _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Lang _____ Secoded by Rep. Egan _____ Vote: unanimous

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP X OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment # 0021h _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Secoded by Rep. _____ Vote: 20-0

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Secoded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES NO

Minority Report? Yes No If yes, author, Rep: _____ Motion _____




Respectfully submitted: _____ Ellen Delana Read _____
Rep Ellen Read, Clerk



2021 SESSION

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

Bill #: 1230 Motion: OTPA AM #: 0021h Exec Session Date: 1/14/2022

TOTAL VOTE:  20  0 



2021 SESSION

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

Bill #: 1230 Motion: OTPA AM #: 0021h Exec Session Date: 1/14/2022

<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. Dawn Johnson	7		
Kittredge, Mac	8		
Allard, Tony Lekas	9		
Smith, Jonathan H.	10		
Harvey, Cathryn A. Tim Horrigan	11		
Laflamme, Larry L.	12		
Dentonville, Roger W. Martin Jack	13		
King, Mark R.	14		
Read, Ellen D. Clerk	15		
Egan, Timothy T.	16		
Ruprecht, Denny M.			
Shurtleff, Steve J.	17		
Ellis, Donna R.	18		
Oxaal, Ariel	19		

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1230-FN

BILL TITLE: permitting online presentation of deer for registration.

DATE: January 14, 2022

LOB ROOM: 305 - 307

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 9:13 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 9:30 a.m.

Committee Members: Reps. Lang, Khan, Read, Klose, Spillane, Howard, Craig, Love, Kittredge, J. Smith, Laflamme, M. King, Egan, Shurtleff and Ellis

Bill Sponsors:

Rep. Pearl

Rep. Cambrils

TESTIMONY

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

Rep Pearl – Allows online registration of deer, department working on navigating process and thought they might need legislation, there is an amendment that will be spoken to which changes the bill to exactly to what they need

***Dan Bergeron, NHFG** – amendment allows in person sampling from deer, collect weight, antler characteristics, reproduction, biological samples, for example blood samples in conjunction with HHS for covid screening. This allows requiring occasional physical presentation on deer

Spillane – biggest reason to need requirement is to keep a handle on chronic wasting disease, can wildlife management require it for certain parts of the state only and not all

Bergeron – I believe so, often take samples from butchers but we need to be able to collect from stations in case we get CWD

Rep Lekas – any concern if hunters switch to online that we will lose our check in stations

Bergeron – we are still trying to figure it out but we went to online for turkey and about half register in person 2 years later, but this is an internal issue to work out but this allows us to set up the online

Rep Howard – I don't see fees, will there be

Bergeron - there is wording to allow fees by rule

Howard – same price?

Bergeron - should be but through a contracted vendor, but similar

Rep Khan – every year we hear other states are doing it why can't we...why can't we follow what other states are doing

Bergeron – Currently MA and VT both do what we are proposing with both, in Maine it is completely in person. Most states that have fully remote options have many more deer than we do, those states harvest over 100k deer, which is what we have in person

Rep Laflamme – I am not sure if you can answer but does enforcement have reservations about access to online registration information?

Bergeron - it will be an adjustment, we have had this conversation and started this with turkeys but we are working on it so they can access it

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Ellen D. Read
Clerk

House Remote Testify

Fish and Game and Marine Resources Committee Testify List for Bill HB1230 on 2022-01-14

Support: 3 Oppose: 5 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

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>
Richardson, Diane	Springfield, NH Frontierrots@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/5/2022 7:31 PM
Golisano, Michael	Concord, NH Michael.Golisano@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/5/2022 9:55 PM
Kreis, Kenneth	Loudon, NH kkreissr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/6/2022 8:59 AM
Robb, Kalla	Manchester, NH kalla.robb@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:26 PM
Benware, Aaron	Claremont, NH saroocolibaba@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 4:49 AM
Craig, Matthew	Sharon, NH anothermattcraig@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/13/2022 6:29 AM

Heather Goley

From: Christopher T. Hilson <chilson@dtclawyers.com>
Sent: Friday, January 7, 2022 4:26 PM
To: ~House Fish and Game Committee
Subject: Support for HB 1230-FN; Opposition for HB1308

Dear esteemed Committee Members –

I write to voice my strong support for HB 1230-FN, which would allow for the online “check-in” of deer harvested in NH. As you are likely aware, hunters who take a deer must check it in at a predetermined site, often a local general store. In recent years, the list of proprietors offering check-in services appear to be dwindling – the check in process is somewhat administratively taxing (a clerk must fill out a form while other customers wait, and visually observe the deer being tagged by the hunter), and as such these retailers appear to be making the decision that the increased foot traffic and the *de minimus* check-in fee are not worth the administrative burden.

Practically speaking (and depending on the weather conditions), the check in process impedes the cooling of the carcass, and increases the risk of spoilage and bacterial growth. A long check-in process can allow for too much bacterial growth and risks the food-safe nature of the meat, especially if a deer is “gut shot”, allowing the bacteria rich contents of entrails and organs to touch muscle tissue. Personally, I took a deer in November of 2020 during an unseasonably hot day (it was 72 by mid-morning); I felt I had to race to break the deer down after a long trip to the closest station, an extended wait while the overextended clerk checked in a long line of hunters (and attempted to service customers simultaneously), then a return drive. Had my deer been gut shot, I likely would have lost a significant amount (if not all) the meat from the animal.

To state the obvious, online check-in of deer will ameliorate this problem. I will miss the camaraderie of the check-in process, but the reality is that the number of check-in stations have shrunk to such a degree that it is not practical to have all successful NH deer hunters physically bring their deer to a dwindling number of check-in stations. I think online check-in will also result in a more accurate tabulation of the season’s take, which is vital to herd management: we should make it as easy as possible for hunters to report their success, such as to get the most accurate numbers possible. To that end, I ask that you find that HB1230-FN Ought to Pass.

I also take this opportunity to voice my opposition to HN 1308 – this will cripple hunting dog training in NH, as well as destroy hunting club and dog trial operations; I suspect this is the ulterior motivation behind the bill. To the extent the concern is that captured hares are being mistreated in captivity, animal cruelty laws exist to address that concern – those who are cruel to animals may be prosecuted criminally. To that end, I ask that you find that HB 1308 is Inexpedient to Legislate.

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Scott R. Mason
Executive Director

New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301-6500
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TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964
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New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

Testimony in support of HB 1230-FN as amended, an act permitting online presentation of deer for registration.

House Fish and Game and Marine Resources Committee

January 14, 2022

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. My name is Dan Bergeron. I am the Chief of the Wildlife Division for the Fish and Game Department. I'm here today representing the Department and the Fish and Game Commission in Support of HB 1230-FN as amended, an act permitting online presentation of deer for registration.

The Department relies on data collected through mandatory registration of harvested deer to effectively manage the state's deer herd. Historically this data has been collected at physical deer registration stations. These stations are typically operated out of local businesses such as sporting goods shops, convenience stores, and hardware stores. In the past few years however, it has become more difficult for the Department to find businesses who are interested in registering deer and the number of stations across the state has declined. As a result it has become more difficult for hunters to find a convenient, open station to register their deer in a timely manner.

Moving forward, the Department would like the ability to allow hunters to register their deer themselves online to provide a more convenient option. Current language in RSA 208:15 does not allow the Department to institute an online deer registration system. Therefore we are supportive of the intent of this bill as it would provide that authority. However, the Department also needs the flexibility to require hunters to register deer in person at a physical registration station at certain times throughout the season. Mandatory in-person registration allows the Department to collect necessary, detailed biological information to help track the health of the state's deer population. Currently, Biologists are staffed at our highest volume stations, during the busiest days of the season and collect information on ages, weights, antler measurements, productivity measurements, and various other biological samples. This past year for example the Department partnered with NH Health and Human Services and USDA APHIS to collect blood samples from deer to screen for various mosquito borne diseases and SARS-CoV-2 antibodies in deer. The ability to require hunters to register deer in person allows us to obtain an adequate and unbiased sample of harvested animals. The amendments which have been proposed to this bill would provide us that ability.

I would like to thank the Committee for allowing me to testify before you today and respectfully request the Committee members vote in Support of HB 1230-FN as amended.

Dan Bergeron
Wildlife Division Chief

HB 1230-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2410
04/11

HOUSE BILL ***1230-FN***

AN ACT permitting online presentation of deer for registration.

SPONSORS: Rep. Pearl, Merr. 26; Rep. Cambrils, Merr. 9

COMMITTEE: Fish and Game and Marine Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the executive director of fish and game to establish an online registration system to register deer killed in this state.

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.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT permitting online presentation of deer for registration.

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

1 1 Transportation of Deer; Presentation for Registration. Amend RSA 208:15-d to read as
2 follows:

3 208:15-d Presentation for Registration. Any person killing a deer shall present the same for
4 registration at the first open deer registration station on the route taken by the person who killed
5 the deer, ***or by using the online registration process established by the executive director***
6 ***under RSA 208:15-h.*** No person shall present for registration, or allow to be registered in such
7 person's name, a deer which such person did not kill.

8 2 New Section; Game Animals; Transportation of Deer; Online Registration. Amend RSA 208
9 by inserting after section 15-g the following new section:

10 208:15-h Online Deer Registration. The executive director shall cause to be established an
11 online registration system for the purpose of registering deer killed in the state. The executive
12 director shall act as the registration agent for deer registered through the online registration system.
13 The requirements, procedures, and fees for online registration shall be similar to those used at deer
14 registration stations. The executive director shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A specifying the
15 necessary requirements, procedures, and fees for the use of the online registration system.

16 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

**HB 1230-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT permitting online presentation of deer for registration.

FISCAL IMPACT: State County Local None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase
<i>Funding Source:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> General Game Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Highway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Fish and

METHODOLOGY:

This bill would require the Fish and Game Department to create an online registration system for harvested deer. The Department states creating and operating an online registration system would be a substantial departure from the current registration system and is unable to estimate the resources required at this time. Therefore, this bill's impact on state expenditures in FY 2023 and each year thereafter is indeterminable.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Fish and Game Department