

SENATE No. 577

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Peter J. Durant

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the use of crossbows in hunting.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>Worcester and Hampshire</i>	
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2025</i>
<i>Christopher M. Markey</i>	<i>9th Bristol</i>	<i>2/7/2025</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>2/7/2025</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/27/2025</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>	<i>3/14/2025</i>
<i>John R. Gaskey</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>10/22/2025</i>

SENATE No. 577

By Mr. Durant, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 577) of Peter J. Durant, Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr., Christopher M. Markey, Joseph D. McKenna and others for legislation relative to the use of crossbows in hunting. Environment and Natural Resources.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 494 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to the use of crossbows in hunting.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 64 of chapter 131, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by striking out, in lines 2 and 3, the words “, or any crossbow, except as
3 provided in section 69, nor” and inserting in place thereof the following the word:- nor.

4 SECTION 2. Said chapter 131 is hereby further amended by striking out section 69, as so
5 appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

6 Section 69. A person shall not carry or use a bow and arrow or crossbow while hunting
7 unless the bow and arrow or crossbow meet the requirements of the rules and regulations which
8 shall be promulgated by the director. Such rules and regulations shall prescribe general design,

- 9 weight of pull and type of bows and arrows or crossbows and shall conform to standards
- 10 generally accepted for hunting purposes.