



Hunter's Advocate of Ohio  
Proponent Testimony  
House Bill 64 - The Senior Sportsman Fairness Act  
House Natural Resources Committee  
February 26, 2025

Chair Jones, Vice Chair Robb Blasdel, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the House Natural Resource Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Kevin Mullet, President of Hunter's Advocate of Ohio. Our mission is to bridge the gap between hunters and policymakers to improve the quality and health of Ohio's deer herd and overall wildlife, ensuring the longevity of a well-managed, quality deer herd and outdoor experience. I am here to express our support for House Bill 64 – The Senior Sportsman Fairness Act, which would lower the age necessary for senior discount on a hunter's license in Ohio from 66 to 65.

Hunting is a cherished tradition that connects us to our heritage, our land, our communities, and our families. Hunting also plays a vital role in Ohio's wildlife management efforts. By controlling animal populations, hunters help maintain a healthy balance in our ecosystems. Enabling more seniors to take up hunting supports these conservation efforts. Meanwhile, young hunters often learn about hunting, wildlife preservation, and gain a love for the outdoors from family traditions. Lowering this discount age will allow seniors to preserve those traditions educate future generations on the importance of preserving Ohio's natural resources. By applying this discount to seniors at the age of 65, the bill incentives seniors to continue to hunt and hopefully pass down this family pastime to the younger generations and grow the next crop of young hunters who have a deep appreciation for wildlife in the state of Ohio.

On behalf of Hunter's Advocate of Ohio, I would like to thank Representative David Thomas and Representative Kellie Deeter for sponsoring this important bill, which will help ensure that our wildlife ecosystem remains properly managed and the sport remains accessible to our seniors and the future generations to come.

Thank you again for the opportunity to give proponent testimony on House Bill 64. I also have Javin Mullet with me who is on our Board and we welcome any questions you may have.