



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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September 12, 2024

The Honorable Phillip D. Murphy
Governor, State of New Jersey
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy,

I am writing to you in opposition to the bear hunt which is scheduled to take place from October 14 – October 19, 2024, and December 9 – December 14, 2024.

I feel that there are other methods to help mitigate the human-bear conflict without allowing a hunt. The issuing of a bear hunt is unwarranted given the studies highlighting the inefficiencies of black bear hunting as a way to control the population and reduce human-bear encounters.

According to the North American Black Bear Center, most attacks by black bears are defensive reactions to a person who is too close. In addition, there are several studies that show the inefficiency of hunting to control black bears. We should be pursuing proven alternative methods which are more humane.

I respectfully ask you to reconsider your position on the black bear hunt.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Verlina Reynolds-Jackson".

Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson
15th Legislative District