



NEW JERSEY SENATE

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BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor, the State of New Jersey
125 West State Street, Trenton, NJ, 08625

September 19, 2024

Dear Governor Murphy:

I urge you to reconsider your decision to reopen New Jersey's bear hunt and continue building upon your administration's otherwise commendable record on ensuring the humane treatment of animals and wildlife protection in the State.

A decision to stop the bear hunt would be widely supported by the public, many of whom are increasingly concerned about the welfare of our wildlife and the broader ecological impact of these practices. While I acknowledge the urgency and complexity of the situation, resorting to the trophy bear hunt is cruel, and our state can and should set an example by demonstrating that there are more compassionate, effective ways of handling our bear population.

As both an advocate for wildlife conservation and a representative of the people, I believe it is our responsibility to explore more humane and effective alternatives to managing the state's black bear population. I ask that you suspend the bear hunt commencing on October 14th and instead implement non-lethal methods to reduce human-bear conflict in our State.

Sincerely,

Andrew Zwicker
Senator, 16th District