



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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NEW JERSEY-ISRAEL COMMISSION
NJ STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS
EX OFFICIO

October 5, 2020

Submitted by electronic mail

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Office of the Governor
225 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy,

I am writing to respectfully request that you give consideration to suspending the 2020 bear hunt on public and private lands.

New Jersey has always been a state that looks out for the welfare of our animals, whether these animals are domesticated or wild. We must continue to stand up for these animals and continue to protect our wildlife from the cruel and inhumane treatment that this bear hunt will bring. Instead of allowing senseless violence and killings to take place, we should instead focus our attention on nonlethal methods to control our bear population.

Due to the fact that New Jersey is one of two states that allow trophy hunting bear cubs, we will no doubt see an influx of out-of-state hunters, which will make it that much more difficult to combat our current public health crisis. We are in uncertain times and cannot encourage activities that could potentially result in the transmission or spike of COVID-19 cases.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valerie Vainieri Huttle".

Valerie Vainieri Huttle
Assemblywoman, District 37