



## NEW JERSEY SENATE

RONALD L. RICE  
SENATOR, 28TH DISTRICT  
1044 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07106  
(973) 371-5665  
FAX: (973) 371-6738

COMMITTEES  
VICE-CHAIRMAN  
COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
CO-CHAIRMAN  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
MEMBER  
HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND  
SENIOR SERVICES

Honorable Phil Murphy, Governor  
State of New Jersey  
Office of Governor P.O. Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625

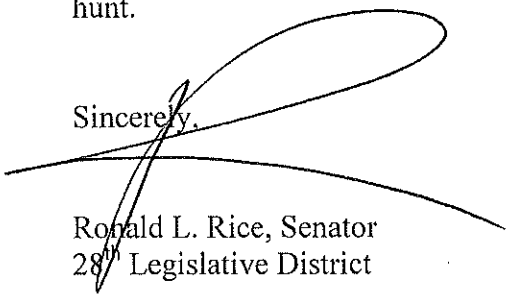
Dear Governor Murphy,

I applaud your administration's decision to pursue the suspension of New Jersey's bear hunt and review of the State's black bear policy. However, I urge you to issue an executive order that suspends the 2020 hunt out of precaution for the COVID-19 pandemic.

The recent outbreaks and uptick in the State's positivity rates should cause all of us serious concerns. With the growing alarm in COVID cases and the flu season upon us the state should not seek to increase our number of virus cases by having hunters from out of state come to participate.

Therefore for the health and safety of all citizens I respectfully ask your consider not having this hunt.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Rice, Senator  
28<sup>th</sup> Legislative District