

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 422

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEFANSKI

HUNTING/DEER: Provides for taking of deer by use of pre-charged pneumatic devices

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 56:116.1(A)(6) and to enact R.S. 56:8(153) and 116.3(H),  
3 relative to the taking of deer by pre-charged pneumatic devices; to provide for  
4 definitions; to provide for methods of taking; to provide for requirements and  
5 restrictions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 56:116.1(A)(6) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 56:8(153)  
8 and 116.3(H) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §8. Definitions

10 For purposes of this Chapter, the following words and phrases have the  
11 meaning ascribed to them in this Section, unless the context clearly shows a different  
12 meaning:

13 \* \* \*

14 (153) "Pre-charged pneumatic device" means any air gun that fires  
15 projectiles, including arrows or bolts, pneumatically with unignited compressed air  
16 or other gases that are mechanically pressurized without involving any chemical  
17 reactions.

18 \* \* \*

1 §116.1. Wild birds and wild quadrupeds; times and methods of taking; penalties

2 A. Resident game birds, outlaw birds, game quadrupeds, and outlaw  
3 quadrupeds may be taken only in accordance with all of the following:

4 \* \* \*

5 (6) With a bow and arrow, crossbow, ~~or rifle, or a handgun,~~ pre-charged  
6 pneumatic device, ~~or falconry,~~ or a shotgun not larger than a No. 10 gauge fired from  
7 the shoulder without a rest, except as otherwise provided in this Chapter.

8 \* \* \*

9 §116.3. Special provisions applicable to deer and bear; times and methods of taking;  
10 penalties

11 \* \* \*

12 H. Deer may be taken with pre-charged pneumatic devices only in  
13 accordance with the following:

14 (1) Pre-charged pneumatic devices must fire a projectile of at least thirty  
15 caliber in diameter and at least one hundred fifty grains in weight with a minimum  
16 muzzle velocity of eight hundred feet per second or any combination of bullet weight  
17 and muzzle velocity that produces muzzle energy of at least two hundred fifteen foot  
18 pounds of energy.

19 (2) Arrows or bolts used with a pre-charged pneumatic device shall conform  
20 to the same standards and requirements as provided for in this Section and may be  
21 used to hunt deer only during modern firearm deer season.

22 Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby authorized and directed to  
23 renumber in consecutive sequence and to reorder the definitions in R.S. 56:8(153) in  
24 alphabetical sequence.

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**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 422 Original

2022 Regular Session

Stefanski

**Abstract:** Authorizes the taking of deer with air guns and arrow guns.

Present law provides for the times and methods of taking of wild birds and wild quadrupeds. Further provides that resident game birds, outlaw birds, game quadrupeds, and outlaw quadrupeds may be taken only with a bow and arrow, crossbow, rifle, handgun, falconry, or a shotgun not larger than a No. 10 gauge fired from the shoulder without a rest.

Proposed law retains present law and adds pre-charged pneumatic devices to the list of acceptable methods of taking of wild birds and wild quadrupeds.

Present law provides for the times and methods of taking specific to deer and bear. Further provides that no person can hunt or shoot a deer or bear at any time with a firearm smaller than a .22 caliber centerfire, or a shotgun using a shell loaded with shot less than buckshot or rifled slug, or a bow with less than 30 pounds of pull, or other than arrows with broadhead points.

Proposed law retains present law and allows the taking of deer with a pre-charged pneumatic device with the following restrictions:

- (1) Any device must fire a projectile of at least 30 caliber in diameter and at least 150 grains in weight with a minimum muzzle velocity of 800 feet per second or any combination of bullet weight and muzzle velocity that produces muzzle energy of at least 215 foot pounds of energy.
- (2) Arrows or bolts must have broadhead points and can be used to hunt deer only during modern firearm deer season.

(Amends R.S. 56:116.1(A)(6); Adds R.S. 56:8(153) and 116.3(H))