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June 23, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo Governor of New York State New York State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12248

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I write to respectfully request and urge you to sign into law S.8522/ A.8666-A which authorizes rifle hunting in Tompkins County for two years.

This legislation was requested by Tompkins County and approved by the County Legislature. It would allow for the hunting of big game throughout the County from mid November until mid December and would remain in effect for two years, to be revisited in October 2022. By signing this bill into law before the beginning of the hunting season, hunters will be able to enjoy the first of two already brief seasons, in full.

Additionally, the State's Hunting Regulations, which are usually published at the beginning of June, alert hunters and the general public of changes to our current hunting laws. Due to COVID-19, these updates have not been published yet, but are expected to be soon completed. By signing this bill into law as soon as possible, this update would be included in the regulations, allowing hunters and the remaining residents of Tompkins County to remain informed and safe.

With 58 other counties across the state already authorizing hunting of this nature, I encourage you to sign this legislation into law so we may continue to treat hunting as the time honored tradition that it is.

Thank you for the consideration of this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Helming Senator, 54th District

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