



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

February 22, 1980

DAVID C. CALLAGHAN
Director

Mr. Bob Miles, Chief
Wildlife Resources Division
Dept. of Natural Resources
1800 Wahsington St. E.
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Bob,

In response to the News Release sent out by our Department on February 14, 1980, regarding a Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on a proposal for allowing nonresidents to train their dogs in West Virginia, I would like to offer the following.

I would like to call your attention to Chapter 20-2-5 (26) of the Code of West Virginia, wherein it states, "Provided further, that nonresidents shall not train dogs in this State at any time except during the legal small game season."

That same section also points out that "small game season" is a determined period of time and not a year round event.

Therefore, in my humble opinion, that statute clearly prohibits dog training by nonresidents in West Virginia except at specified times and any change contemplated would have to be accomplished by Legislative action and not by administrative regulation.

Respectfully,

W. F. Armstrong
W.F. Armstrong
Sgt. Kanawha County

cc: Colonel R.V. Eye

Feb. 25, 1980

To Whom it may Concern:

This letter is written in behalf of the Wayne County Coonhunters Association in regard to the present law which prohibits residents of West Virginia from training or hunting dogs in the state of Ohio, when our season or theirs is closed. We urge the committee to change the present law to allow Ohio residents to train their dogs in West Virginia, ~~and~~ by doing this, West Virginia residents would be allowed to train their dogs in Ohio as we've done in past years. The reason we are so concerned about this is due to the scarcity of raccoon in this area.

Very Truly Yours

Eugene May

President - Wayne County Coonhunters

718 12th St.

Kenova, W. Va. 25530

Phone - 453-2237

Hearing for Feb. 26, 1980

Problem:

Training, Running of Hounds
(out of State)

Law:

- Ⓐ States - no person shall run or train Hounds out of State.
- Ⓑ States - No person shall run or train Hounds in West Virginia from out of State.

We are opposed to this Law.

We support a Bill that will change the Law to open the sport of Running and the right to Train Hounds in any state. To train or run here in West Virginia to out of State sportsmen

The the sportsmen who run + train Hounds buy out of state licenses but as the law now stand they are of no use to us.

The West Virginia Houndsman Ass'n ~~we~~ support a bill to Run - Train - (in or out of State) Hounds. Our membership now stands at about thirteen hundred,

member of the Board Dir.
Charlitta Crockett
5739 Lynn Cr Rd
R4, Huntington, W Va

WEST VIRGINIA SNOWSHOE
HARE ASSOCIATION, Inc.

RT. 1 — BOX 59
MONTROSE, WEST VIRGINIA 26283

February 20, 1980

*Bob
J. Pumphrey*

Mr. Bob Mills
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Motor Vehicles Building
1800 Washington Street, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

RE: Training of Dogs by Non-Residents in West Virginia

Dear Mr. Mills:

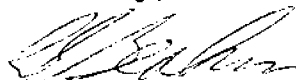
The West Virginia Snowshoe Hare Association would like to voice it's support of dog training in West Virginia by non-residents. We feel that to restrict the training of dogs in West Virginia in any fashion is to voice anti-hunting sentiment and perpetuate false stigmas attached to the training of dogs. It should be recognized that the training of dogs, to a great number of people, is a recreation in its self; and to prohibit such activity or limit it in various ways is to curtail a particular form of recreation that is an end in itself.

However, in addition to being in favor of non-residents training dogs in West Virginia, we are very strongly in favor of rescinding the amendment that prohibits anyone from training dogs in the so-called bear counties of West Virginia.

It seems totally without reason to say "We have an enforcement problem with dog training in the bear counties that might (to what degree no one has been able to substantiate) lead to illegal bear kills" and then create an additional law, which creates additional enforcement problems that have already been identified by the DNR to be deficient to alleviate the original problem.

To restrict in any way one part of the state concerning dog training, especially non-bear dogs such as beagles and bird dogs, etc., is without justification and with disregard to the majority of interests in order to achieve a specialized goal of bear management.

Sincerely,



R. E. Beahm

REB/blr

RECEIVED
FEB 22 1980

Wildlife Resources

Burris Roger Crastree
12th Delegate District
Wayne County

Gentlemen, I am here favoring allowing non-residents of other states to be allowed to train their dogs in our states when our residents are allowed to train their dogs here.

at the present time we prohibit non-residents from doing so except during hunting season.

The problem is that Ohio law is the same for non-residents as the law is in the state where the non-resident resides, therefore, West Virginians are prohibited from hunting in Ohio during training season because Ohioans are prohibited here.

If West Virginia would change its regulation to allow non-residents to train here, our coon and fox hunters would then be allowed to run their dogs there during training season in Ohio.

For years our coon hunters and fox hunters have been allowed to run their dogs in Ohio during training season, but now with the Ohio and West Virginia changes they cannot do so.

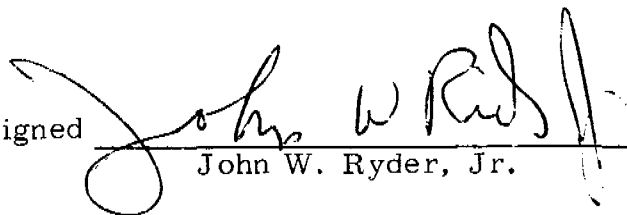
This creates a great problem to our raccoon hunters due to the fact there is such a scarcity of raccoon in southern and western West Virginia. I feel that this change would benefit our coon hunters and fox hunters greatly in this area.

John W. Ryder, Jr.
Representing the West Virginia Bear Hunters Association
with 500 members
Route 2, Box 14B
Rainelle, West Virginia

Mr. Ryder opposes the proposed amendment to West Virginia's Administrative Regulations, as written, on a statewide basis. He noted that if only Ohio residents could participate in the reciprocal agreement, he would not be opposed to the regulation. He does not want other states to be allowed to participate.

Mr. Ryder is especially concerned about bear being chased in counties not open to bear hunting; although these counties have resident bear populations. It was pointed out there have been bear sightings in 28 counties, 18 of which do not have a bear season.

It was also noted that it took approximately 8-10 years to obtain the present dog training bill, and should not be altered now.

Signed 
John W. Ryder, Jr.

Date February 26, 1980

(A) No person may legally take more than one bear per calendar year.

(B) Nonresidents shall not train dogs in the state at any time except during the legal small game hunting season: Provided, that, in order to reciprocate with the State of Ohio, residents of the State of Ohio may train their dogs between the 16th day of August and the 30th day of April in accordance with the laws and regulations governing residents of the State of West Virginia: Provided, further, however, that residents of the State of Ohio shall not train a dog in any county or portion thereof in which there is a legal bear hunting season at any time except during the legal small game hunting season.

(C) Residents in counties which have a legal bear hunting season may train their bear hunting dogs between August 24 and February 28, only, provided that except during the firearms bear season, they have no firearms, bow or implement with which the bear could be taken in their possession or under their control.

(D) Bear season will be closed in counties having an antlerless deer season while that season is open.

3.04. Fall Wild Turkey - Season shall be for twenty-nine consecutive days starting with the Saturday nearest October 15, and for six consecutive days commencing on Monday following the second Saturday in December.

Only in the following counties: Berkeley, Grant, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas (east of State Route #20), Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, Tucker and Webster.

Fall Wild Turkey - Season shall be for 15 consecutive days starting with the Saturday nearest October 15; Only in Preston County.