

Good afternoon,

My name is Mark LaTourelle and I am the Bowhunter Vice President for the Minnesota State Archery association.

The Minnesota State Archery Association (MSAA) is opposed to Section 12 of S.F. No. 2077. After conducting 2 surveys of our membership, it has become clear our membership is not in favor of full inclusion of crossbows in the archery season. Our membership would like to see the archery season remain as it was pre 2024 with archers with disabilities and those over 60 years of age allowed to hunt with a crossbow during the regular archery season. The concern of the membership is that full inclusion of the crossbow during the regular archery season will eventually result in a shorter season or restrictive bag limits such as bucks only due to the increased harvest.

The MSAA is not opposed to crossbow hunting, we would just like the crossbow hunters to have a separate license and a separate season to allow the DNR more flexibility with seasons and bag limits as the resource needs dictate. Allowing youths 17 years of age and under to hunt with a crossbow may also be a good way to bring younger people into the sport.

Thank you for listening to our concerns.

Mark LaTourelle

Vice President

Minnesota State Archery Association