

SB 45 p101

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I am sending this picture to you so you know what we are doing!

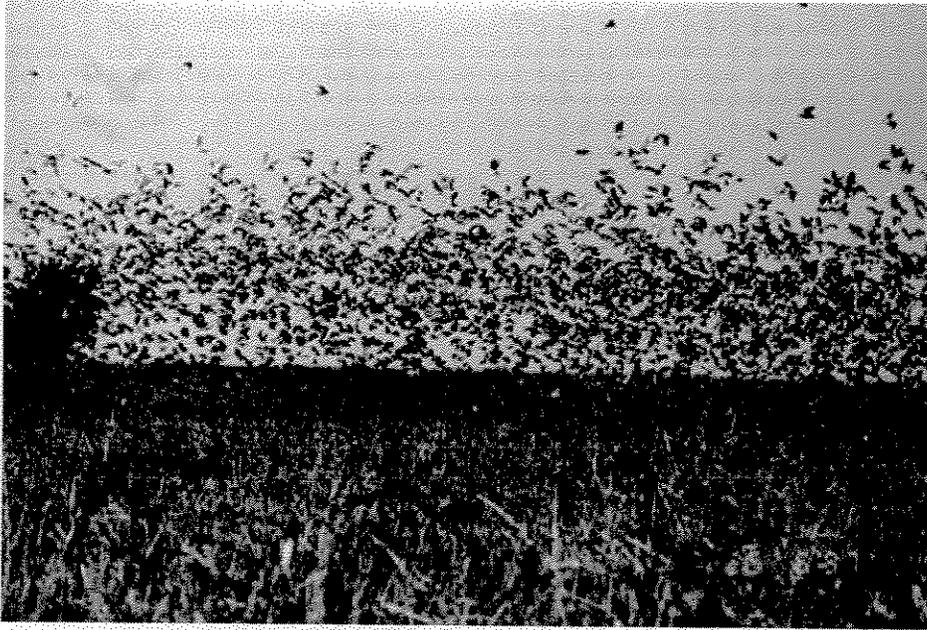
The attached picture is from 1997 and is of Dove flying over a field of planted sunflowers. Dove just LOVE sunflowers! We plant about 40 acres per year just for Dove hunting. My group has leased several farms around the state, one in Janesville and others not be named around the state. We will be planting sunflowers and millet this season and will be a advertising in the large metro papers for hunters wanting to hunt "Texas" style hunts!

In 1997 in the field pictured about 30 of us killed about 1,500 birds September 1, 2 and 3. We have a large BBQ where the dove are wrapped in bacon and smoked!

We're going to SHOOT them up in Wisconsin!

Regards,

Kevin Ancell
Avid Dove Hunter!



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MAR 19 2001

David L. Ray
Patricia M. Ray
13303 Robley Road
Valders, WI 54228
920-758-2149

March 9, 2001

RE: Mourning Dove Sen Bill SB 45

Senator Baumgart
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator:

This letter is to inform you as a member on the committee of SB 45 we are for the bill to not allow hunting of the mourning dove and request you to vote as such.

The DNR does not show an over abundance of mourning doves by their own population count.

The mourning dove is a viable part of the food chain to maintain the natural balance. Please, please stand up for the mourning dove and stop all this killing.

Sincerely,


Patricia M. Ray



David L. Ray

Wisconsin Citizens Concerned for Cranes and Doves WCCCD

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has."-Margaret Mead

March 9, 2001

Mr. Darrell Buzzell, Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53701-7921

WCCCD
P.O. Box 103
New London, WI54961
920-982-5561

Dear Sec Buzzell,

I am contacting you and the members of the Department of Natural Resources Board in regard to the Mourning Dove hunting season due to open Sept. 1, 2001. I believe Mr. O'Brien stated that he was looking for a biological reason NOT to conduct the hunt. In preparing for the coming State Senate hearing in regard to SB 45, protecting the State's Symbol of Peace, I realized I was looking at that reason. I am requesting that you and the other board members consider the following piece of information. If it does not raise some concern that you will be endangering one of our State's important natural resources by allowing the Dove hunt to go forward, for the sake of a cause, I would be greatly surprised.

In reviewing **Ecology and Management of the Mourning Dove** I found the following information:

*"Doves nesting the Northern Parts of the breeding range may migrate the great distances'. 'As summer progresses, flocks grow larger and are composed of both young and adults that have finished nesting. Random movements continue until mid-August when sharp declines in flock numbers are noticed and migration begins in earnest.'" By the hunting opening day of Sept. 1, the majority of the promised 4 to 5 million Doves in the fall migration flight will have left Wisconsin. I'll grant that there are a substantial number of Doves left, most with intentions of over-wintering. **What this flock is made up of is open to speculation.***

Mr. Keith Warnke presented you with a Fact Sheet regarding the Mourning Dove in Wisconsin and why there was no biological reason that the bird could not be hunted in Wisconsin. The basis for most his statements and review was **Ecology and Management of the Mourning Dove**. If you call into question the above statement regarding WHEN Mourning Doves migrate out of Wisconsin, than you call into question all of Warnke's testimony before the Board last May.

I'm sure it was a simple over sight on his part not to include the timing of migration from Wisconsin. Keith surely would not mean to mislead the Board by not including this information in his report.

I'm sure you can see the need for additional study before moving ahead with the hunt. I urge you to ask the Board to place a moratorium on the fall hunt and direct the Department to conduct studies on what the effect of a full 60-day hunt would have on the post-migration, over-wintering population of Mourning Dove's.

I would also like to draw your attention to the attached letter. It is from a Kevin Ancell, who I believe resides at 8934 Bent Spur Ln, Houston, TX 77064. He admits to violating both state and federal game bag limits in 1997. He has also laid out his plans to do the same sort of thing in Wisconsin. I trust you will know the proper authorities to refer this too.

I trust you to do the right thing.

Thank you,

John Wieneke
WCCCD

MAR 19 2001

March 9, 2001

Senator Baumgart
 Senator Hansen
 Senator Wirch
 Senator Cowles
 Senator Schultz
 Senator Margaret Farrow – District 33
 Senator Richard Grobschmidt – District 7
 Rep. Brian Burke – District 3
 Rep. Tim Carpenter – District
 Rep. Christine Sinicki – District 20
 Rep. Peggy Krusick – District 97
 Rep. Gwendolynne Moore – District 4
 Rep. Shirley Krug – District 12
 Congressman Gerald Kleczka
 Congressman Tom Barrett

RE: SENATE BILL SB45

We, the undersigned, urge you to support Senator Moen's Senate Bill SB 45 to not allow hunting of the mourning doves in Wisconsin. We are concerned regarding this states "Official Symbol of Peace". We have signed petitions and sent letters regarding our grave concern with this issue. Over 28,000 signatures and 4,000 letters against the hunt have been submitted to the DNR and the Wisconsin legislature.

We attended the April 2000 Conservation Committee Meeting to vote against the proposed dove hunt. It was appalling and disconcerting to witness the manner in which the voting occurred. Threats, lying and cheating was observed from those who supported the hunt. The manner in which the voting was held undermines our "democratic right" to vote without persecution and fear. Despite the 'undemocratic' fashion in which the votes were obtained and counted and the public outcry against the hunt, the DNR allowed the hunt to go through.

Please note that the DNR falsely has described the mourning dove as a "precocious and frequent breeder". What they fail to disclose is that in reality, mourning doves are poor reproducers and average only 3 young per breeding season. Another very valid concern is the potential for "jump shooting" during hunting and misidentification of other species resulting in accidental killing and wounding of these species, including those protected by federal regulations.

We now ask in the fairness of our free and democratic society that you uphold the basis of our democratic rights and hear our voices. Due to the reasons thus stipulated, we urge you to support Bill 45 and prevent a proposed hunting season on mourning doves.

Sincerely,



 Andrew Spivey

John Inert
 6340 W Medford
 Milw WI 53218
 }
 1024 E Howard Ave
 Milwaukee, WI 53207

Linda Lesert
 2670 S. 70 St.
 Milwaukee, WI 53219

Tony Gamsky
 4941 W Forest Home
 Milwaukee, WI 53219

MAR 14 2001

March 12, 2001

Senator Baumgart
State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Baumgart:

I understand the Committee on Environmental Resources, which committee you chair, will hear Senate Bill SB 45 on March 22, 2001. This bill has been introduced to not allow the hunting of mourning doves in Wisconsin.

I will try to be at this hearing but just in case I am not able to, I want you to know that my husband and I are against the hunting of mourning doves, and are in favor of Senate Bill SB 45.

First of all, the mourning dove is Wisconsin's STATE BIRD OF PEACE. In the early 1970's, the Wisconsin State Legislature (your former fellow legislators) voted to keep the mourning dove a protected and un hunted bird and classified it as WISCONSIN'S STATE BIRD OF PEACE! It's hard for me to believe that legislators in 2000 stood back and let a state agency reinterpret and rewrite the State Statutes without a single elected state official casting a yes or no vote!

I question the DNR'S (State Dept. of Natural Resources) statistics on the population of Wisconsin's mourning doves and how they arrive at these statistics. Enclosed is a copy of an article that appeared in the 9-14-00 Twin Cities (Minnesota) Star Tribune which states in part that the U.S Department of the Interior reported that the WI Bird Atlas indicated a long-term decline of the mourning dove in Wisconsin. Who is right? At the Spring, 2000 wildlife hearing that I attended, one of the DNR's representatives indicated that the mourning dove would never become overpopulated and that it is a very beneficial bird to farmers as it eats waste grains and seeds. It is also a food source in nature's cycle. Allowing hunters to kill the mourning dove because of DNR's and hunters belief that "they're going to die anyway" may be dangerous to the environment in the end.

The mourning dove's migrating to the south and flocking in the thousands to feed is not a good indication of their numbers and behavior in Wisconsin. Records show that this flocking in great numbers does not exist in Wisconsin. I know that some mourning doves do not migrate if they are able to find a sustainable food source. We have mourning doves at our bird feeders all year, feeding on the seeds that fall to the ground from the feeders. Just two weeks ago, I counted 20 mourning doves eating, along with a number of squirrels. We do, however, live just a short distance from hunting land. From the amount of gunfire I hear coming from this property year round, I'm assuming the hunters will also shoot mourning doves. I hope I can continue to see mourning doves at our feeders.

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I feel that the mourning dove hunt proposal in 2000 was backed big time by the NRA. That was pretty apparent by the great number of hunters who were present at the spring hearings throughout Wisconsin. I understand that hunters were told to appear at these spring hearings en masse just to vote yes to the mourning dove hunt proposal. I also question the legitimacy of those voters who voted for the hunt. I also feel that the proposal was ramrodded through by pro-hunting individuals, organizations, etc. – those being the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, the DNR, the Natural Resources Board, and the legislators in the Natural Resources Committees.

Because the mourning dove hunt proposal in 2000 was such a controversial issue and there was such an outcry of persons against the proposal, that all who were involved in considering the hunt proposal should have just said “NO”---that it was not worth the discontent it was causing---they should have been big enough to vote the proposal down. Hunters were crying that if the proposal to hunt doves was not approved, their hunting rights were being taken away. My contention is that if the proposal was not approved, the hunters would not have lost the right to hunt mourning doves as they never had the right to begin with. Has there ever been such an outcry on previous hunting issues? I’ll bet not!!

Thank you for reading my letter. Please approve Senate Bill SB 45 and not allow the hunting of mourning doves, WISCONSIN’S STATE BIRD OF PEACE!

Sincerely,



Mrs. Ted Luecht
924 Essex Court
Nekoosa, WI 54457

BACK-YARD BIRDING

Franklin's gulls migrate through the Twin Cities in late summer and fall

From the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union

Q I saw a flock of gulls I have identified as Franklin's gulls. I do not recall seeing that species. Is it common or was it a migrant?

A In the Twin Cities, Franklin's gulls are migrants. The species nests on the Great Plains of the United States and central Canada. A large population breeds in western Minnesota each year, and sometimes you will see them following in the wake of tractors plowing fields, doing their own share of harvesting. From late July through November, flocks migrate through the Twin Cities on their way to wintering grounds along the Pacific Coast of South America.

The bird is easy to distinguish from more commonly seen herring or ring-billed gulls. At a glance, it can be separated by its smaller size (14 to 15 inches long) and black head with a bold white eye ring. Ring-billed gulls (18 to 19 inches) and herring gulls (23 to 26 inches) both have white heads. The back and upper wings of the Franklin's gull are dark gray, while they are pale gray on the other two species. Look closely and you will see that the herring and ring-billed gulls have yellow bills, while the Franklin's gull has a dark burnt-orange bill. Also different: their feet. The herring gull's are pink, the ring-billed gull's are yellow, and the Franklin's gull's match its burnt-orange bill.

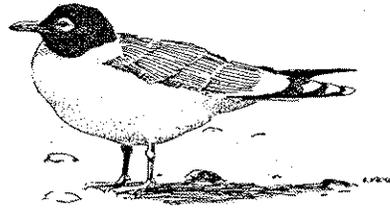


Illustration by Scott Krych

The Franklin's gull.

Q We have a resident wild turkey in our Edina neighborhood. It is skittish, running for the nearest woods when anyone approaches. How unusual are turkey sightings in urban areas, and what can we feed it?

A Wild turkeys have been introduced into many parts of the state the past several decades, and they are quite common across the southern half of the state. Sightings in the Twin Cities are no longer unusual. Wild turkeys eat corn, shelled or cracked and scattered on the ground.

Q I have lived in eastern Richfield since 1987, and, until the past two years, we had mourning doves. Is there an overall population decline, or is it just in our area?

A The Breeding Bird Survey, conducted by the U.S. Department of the Interior, indicates that the dove's population has declined slightly in central Minnesota and has declined significantly in western Minnesota during the past 30 years. However, the population has increased in northeastern Minnesota. The Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas reports a static population in that state, while the Wisconsin Bird Atlas suggests a long-term decline.

BIRDING continues on next page

BIRDING from previous page

We know of no particular reason for a decline in Twin Cities mourning doves. Perhaps there is another factor at work in your neighborhood, such as a loss of habitat or an increase in the outdoor cat population.

Q I found baby birds with their heads missing in our yard. What would do this?

A One species preying upon another is the way of the natural world. One species is food for another, as unpleasant as that may be to witness. Many different bird species — common crow, grackle, blue

jay, nouse wren, house sparrow, for example — will take the eggs or the young of other birds. Some species, such as falcons, will take adult birds of other species. Decapitated young birds could be the result of attacks by larger bird species or perhaps a cat.

— This column is prepared by Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (MOU) members Anthony Hertz and Jude Hughes-Williams; member Scott Krych is the artist. To ask questions about back-yard birding for this column, call 612-673-9070 and leave a brief message. Or send questions to birds@stribmail.com. All questions will be answered in the newspaper only.

March 12, 2001

Messrs. Baumgart, Hansen, Wirch
Crowles and Shultz
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senators:

We are strongly opposed to the proposed dove-hunting season for the following reasons:

1. Based upon the range given by the DNR with respect to the estimated population of mourning doves in Wisconsin, *e.g.*, 4-12 million, it is readily apparent that the actual population is unknown. Given this lack of knowledge as to the actual population of the mourning dove, to allow a daily bag limit of 15 doves per hunter over the course of the proposed hunting season is in our opinion irresponsible and extremely short-sighted.

We have way too often witnessed the near extinction of various species of animals and bird life caused by needless over hunting. Unlike the purpose served by having an annual deer-hunting season, there is no need for establishing a mourning dove-hunting season. These birds are not over-populated, nor do they present a problem for the DNR or farmers. It therefore appears that the underlying rationale for establishing a mourning dove-hunting season is none other than "because they exist." We successfully eliminated the passenger pigeon as a species due to the needless over-hunting of this bird for "sport." What's next on the list, killing off the bald eagle once and for all?

The figures presented in favor of establishing a mourning dove-hunting season are all estimates and "best guesses." There are no precise figures available regarding; the size of the mourning dove population, the number of hunters, the number of birds which would be shot per day and most importantly, the effect that this proposed hunting season would have on our ecological system.

It seems to us that to adopt this proposed hunting season in the face of so many unknowns is clearly unwise, especially when balanced against the superficial reason given by those who are supporting this proposal, which in essence is, "they're going to die anyway."

2. It is our understanding that serious procedural flaws occurred with how the required administrative notice and comment hearings were conducted. Specifically, we understand that thousands who were against this proposed hunting season were turned away when they attempted to attend the public notice and comment meeting held in their geographical location.

March 12, 2001
Page 2

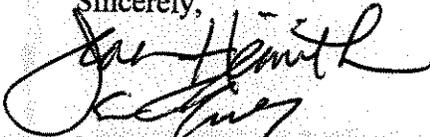
Moreover, it is also our understanding that at these meetings many non-residents were allowed to attend and more importantly, were allowed to vote (some voting twice by raising two hands).

Due to the serious procedural flaws associated with how these public notice and comments meetings were held, it is our belief that these flaws should be corrected by voting in favor of SB 45, which will correct these flaws by restoring the provisions of the 1971 law, which unlike the administrative rule making process undertaken by the DNR with respect to the proposed dove-hunting season, was properly enacted and passed by the state legislature.

We believe that any effort on the part of the Committee on Environmental Resources to pass the proposed dove-hunting season into law, understanding the seriousness of the procedural flaws associated with how the state-wide hearings were conducted, would constitute a significant injustice to the governing principals of our legislative process.

For the reasons stated above, we urge each of you, as committee members of the Committee on Environmental Resources to vote for and support SB 45.

Sincerely,



Jean & Eric Heinith
N 26 W30277 Maple Ave.
Pewaukee, WI 53072

Kristin Meyer
332 Wells St #209
Delafield, WI 53018

cc: Senator Joanne Huelsmann
Senator Daniel Vrakas

Shelby Engel
W 297 W 299 Oakwood
Pewaukee, WI 53072

Janet Jahnke
956 Limerick Lane
Hartford, WI 53027

Chris Forncrook
517 W 32490 Hwy. 18 #H
Delafield, WI 53018

Diann Wick
N 35 W 28560 Old Y. Shore Dr
Pewaukee, WI 53072



MAR 14 2001

March 12, 2001

Senator Baumgart
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator:

I am a friend of the Wisconsin Citizens Concerned for Cranes and Doves. State Senator Moen's Senate Bill (SB 45) to not allow hunting of Wisconsin's "Official Symbol of Peace" will receive a hearing soon.

I am for this bill and against hunting doves and so is my husband who is an avid hunter, shooter.

We feed birds all year long and very seldom have doves at our feeders. We live in the country and many birds nest around our house. We usually have ONE pair of doves that nest near our house. We enjoy listening to them and wouldn't mind having a few more doves.

We have never seen large flocks of doves nor heard them. There are farm fields close by our house and we haven't seen or heard all these supposedly large flocks of doves people talk about.

I was listening to the radio the other day and heard a program on West Nile Flu. This disease affects people and also birds, as mosquitoes are part of the cycle. This disease is new in the United States and has taken scientists awhile to understand it, how it is spread, etc. At this time there is no cure if people get it. If birds get it, they die and many have died. It started on the East Coast of the USA and it is spreading west. If this disease gets out of hand it could have a devastating effect on ALL birds.

Please remember we also had large flocks of passenger pigeons and buffaloes.

WE ARE AGAINST THE HUNTING OF DOVES AND WE URGE YOU TO VOTE FOR BILL SB 45.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mr / Mrs David Brown". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long horizontal flourish at the end.

David Brown
Patricia Brown

Msgr Mrs. M. Kupnow
15205 W. Greenfield
New Berlin, WI 53151
March 12, 2001

Committee on Environmental Resources
PO box 7882
Madison WI 53707

Gentlemen:

We strongly support Senator Moen's
bill SB45. - Due to come up March 15, 2001.
The Mourning Doves should be protected.
It would be wrong to kill our symbol
for peace.

Yours Truly,

Sonia Kupnow
Sonia Kupnow

107698 - 770th Ave
River Falls, WI. 54022

Mar. 12, 2001

Senate Environmental Resource Committee

Senator Baumgardner,

I am sending this to you hoping you will consider it as my work load doesn't allow me to attend the hearing.

I received a letter headed Mourning Dove Alert. In this letter, they claim 30,000 people from 3 different sources have spoken against the dove hunt.

If we give them the benefit of the doubt that none of this count has been duplicated and the population of WI. is over 4 million people, this isn't a very good percentage. I therefore believe that our assembly and senate can better spend their time, this 30,000 people can go next year to the conservation conference and have dove hunting stopped. As our conservation conference has always been the proper place to have hunting & fishing laws changed. I am enclosing a letter to the Editor of the River Falls Journal that I have wrote. Thank you for considering my view points.

Robert E. Livingston

W7698-770th Ave.
River Falls, WI 54022
March 11, 2001

Dear Editor,

I received a notice from Wisconsin Citizens Concerned for Cranes & Doves, pertaining to a hearing by the Senate Environmental Resource Committee. They asked me to forward this to my local paper to be printed as a letter to the Editor. As I do not 100% share their views I will not sign it as they ask me to. I feel the public has a right to know about this hearing.

Now I would like to tell the public my view on Dove hunting. I've been a Hunter all my life. I've hunted deer, raccoons, fox, beaver, pheasants, partridge, quail, and geese so as you can see I'm an all around hunter. But I also enjoy the wild life for its beauty. Today I saw 3 deer come out of the swamp and cross my yard to get to the woods. This morning we saw a pair of geese land on the swamp. It is because of the D.N.R. managing our Wildlife with the help of the Conservation Conference every year that it allows me to enjoy this. In my lifetime I've seen thousands of deer starve to death 1 winter. I've seen raccoons almost come extinct in our area from distemper.

next page

(2)

I've seen the fox die off from ~~something~~ mange these are the wolf mother nature controls the population of the wild life.

None of them are a pretty sight to see.

Do not take this as I am for against

Dove hunting as my wife feeds mourning doves every summer in our yard. I feel the D.N.R.

has done a great job with the wild life in Wisconsin. I do not believe that we need

State Assembly and Senate setting our game laws to favor certain groups.

Remember people that if we do not have a hunt and population increases to much

and a disease spreads through them they will not be dying in the brush lands and

public hunting grounds alone. they will also be dying in your front lawn.

Make your decision

Robert S. Livingston

201 Iron Lake Pass
Madison, WI 53705
March 12, 2001

Wisconsin State Senators

Please consider these questions
before you consider hunting doves.

- ① Is hunting a dove sport, or a needed food source? (They are slow, non-aggressive birds with a tiny head - shoot them anywhere else and you'll blow their little bodies to pieces)
- ② Are they endangering the environment or any other species? (Our population of doves has dwindled over the years)
- ③ Why are hunters hell bent on hunting doves? (Please help us non-hunters understand and please listen to the majority of Wisconsin voters who say, "Don't do it!")

Nancy R. Love
James R. Love

Henderson, Patrick

From: Ludeza@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2001 11:20 AM
To: Sen.Baumgart@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Re: Senate Bill 45(SB-45)

Dear Senator Baumgart,

My State Senator Rod Moen, has advised me of a hearing on Mar. 22, regarding this bill. As much as I would like to appear, in person, a knee injury will not allow the travel, so I would like to state my reasons on why this bill should pass.

First, as this is our state Symbol of Peace, I find its hunting to be objectionable. These birds appear daily at my birdfeeder, and are no threat to anyone, or anything.
They are both a pleasure to see, and hear.

I feel there are enough other GAME birds, on which hunting is allowed. Doves are no bigger than Robins, will they be next?

We allow hunting of deer, turkeys, rabbits on our 60 acre country place. My feeling at this point is this. If Dove hunting is allowed, I will be shutting off hunting of anything, on my land. I can still do that, and I WILL.

Please give your support to this bill.

Sincerely,

Jim & Lu Ann Dezale
W13395 State Rd. 54
Ettrick, Wi. 54627

E9243 Hwy. 136
North Freedom, WI 53951
March 12, 2001

Dear Senator Baumgart,

This letter is written in support of Senate Bill (SB 45) which would not allow hunting of Wisconsin's "Official Symbol of Peace." I would have you consider the following points:

Whereas as the DNR population numbers in 1996 were 12 million, the numbers for the year 2000 were as low as 4 million.

The doves that do not migrate would bear the brunt of the hunting as those that migrate would leave before the season begins.

The petition signatures numbered 28,000 in opposition to the hunt, and over 4000 letters were received by the DNR and Legislators against the hunt. Over 6000 came to the forum to vote against the hunt, but thousands more were turned away and not allowed to vote. At the same time out of state hunting activists were allowed to vote, some were observed holding up both arms and being counted twice.

In 1971 a Legislative act outlawed the hunting, and yet a State Agency rewrote our statutes without a single elected official casting a vote yes or no.

The DNR clearly does not claim this species is over-populated or presents a problem for the Department or farmers. Instead they are an asset to the natural community as they are not a spreader of weeds, but rather a natural herbicide consuming weed seeds that are digested thoroughly.

Although they breed frequently, they are poor reproducers with frequent nesting failures, with a fledgling rate averaging only 3 young per year.

The fall and winter feeding populations in the South are quite different in behavior to those of the North, flocking in thousands and feeding in mass in the South, which has made it more of a game bird there. We do not see this behavior in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,


Allegra Zick

W12866 River Road
Black River Falls
Wisconsin 54615-5037
March 12, 2001

P.O. Box 7882
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882

Dear Senator:

Obviously, there is a ground swell of public opinion against the hunting of mourning doves; an opinion that has been completely ignored by the D.N.R. despite the 28,000 signatures gathered in protest of the dove hunt, and the thousands of letters received by the state legislature and the D.N.R. protesting the hunt.

The Wisconsin legislature previously voted the dove as our state bird of peace. Why are we now allowing a single agency to re-write our Wisconsin state statutes without a single elected official voting on it?

The D.N.R. is not even sure of what the dove population is in this state. In 1996, they claimed 12 million mourning doves. In 2000, their own figures show only 4 million. If indeed, by the D.N.R.'s own numbers, our dove population is in such decline, why are we even considering a dove hunt?

Migratory doves leave the state before September 1st, so the only doves that would be shot are our own local doves, the very ones that come to our feeders. First we feed them, then we shoot them? It makes no sense.

If we must consider a dove hunting season, let all the people decide in a state-wide referendum. Don't let a single agency, composed of un-elected members, make that decision. This is not government by the people!

Vote no to the dove hunt.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Allen
Joanne F. Allen
Judy J. Allen

Robert J. Allen
Joanne F. Allen
Judy J. Allen

March 12, 2001

Senator Baumgart
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Baumgart:

It is our understanding that the Committee on Environmental Resources will be holding a hearing on March 22nd regarding State Senator Moen's Bill (SB 45). Due to work commitments we will not be able to attend the hearing; however, we would like to have our letter go on record in support of the Bill to protect the Mourning Dove, Wisconsin's "Official Symbol of Peace."

There are several reasons we support SB45. First of all, the DNR has clearly stated that there is no biological reason to hunt Mourning Doves. The species is not over-populated, nor presents a problem for the Department or farmers. The bird consumes waste grain and weed seed. It digests seeds thoroughly and is not regarded as a spreader of weeds, but acts as a natural herbicide. At the same time, the Dove is a major source of food in the food chain for birds of prey. Contrary to the opinion of some members in the hunting community, birds of prey are not a problem for farmers, game animals, or the rest of the natural community, but an asset in the natural balance. Allowing hunting which would remove even a small portion of this valuable resource because "they're going to die anyway" philosophy is shortsighted and might even be dangerous to the natural balance in the environment.

In 1996, the DNR estimated the Mourning Dove population to be 12 million birds. The DNR statistics for 2000 were as low as 4 million! The Dove population has also been documented as shifting from rural settings to urban settings. While many Doves do migrate, a substantial number stay in Wisconsin during the winter. It is this population (many of which would still have fledglings) that would bear the brunt of the proposed hunt as most of those that migrate leave before the opening of hunting Sept. 1.

To date, 28,000 signatures have been gathered that opposes the hunt. The DNR and Legislative members have received over 4,000 letters against the hunt. Over 6,000 residents turned out to vote against the hunt, thousands more were turned away and NOT ALLOWED TO VOTE. At the same time, hunting activists from out-of-state were admitted and allowed to vote, some were observed holding up both arms and being counted twice. In 1971, the State Legislature effectively outlawed the hunting of Mourning Doves, yet the 2000 Legislature stood back and let a State Agency reinterpret and effectively rewrite our Wisconsin State Statutes without a single elected State Official casting a vote yes or no.

The Mourning Dove is a poor reproducer with frequent nesting failures and a fledgling rate averaging only three young per breeding season. There is clear evidence that young Doves migrate on their own without mature guidance. It is possible that this tendency would account for the difference in behavior seen on the part of fall and winter feeding populations in the Southern and northern range of Mourning Doves. The behavior of the bird to flock in the thousands and feed on mass in the south is what has made this bird popular as a "game bird." We do not see that behavior exhibited in Wisconsin. The result will be a lot of "jump shooting" if hunting of the species is allowed in Wisconsin. This can only result in miss-identification of targets and an increase of "incidental" killing and wounding.

Pro-Dove hunters have not been silent in expressing their real reason for wanting to hunt Doves. We have heard this expressed at meetings and the following quote appears in their web site: "...it was the mourning dove season that gave us momentum to get action on a constitutional guarantee to hunt, fish and trap... then, it will be recalled, is when Wisconsin's hunting and fishing community came to fully understand and realize the growing power and influence of the anti-hunting movement here... they represent a significant threat to hunting, fishing and trapping-endeavors it is their avowed goal to end." First of all, hunting, fishing, and trapping will never be taken away from those who want to do so. This is not about taking a right away that has already been granted. If the Constitution is what we are arguing, then we can equally argue that the Constitution clearly states that all men are entitled to life and happiness. We could argue that as non-hunters we have no rights and that hunting, just for the sake of sport, interferes with our happiness.

We ask you please to support Bill 45. Thank you for taking the time to read our letter.

Sincerely,


Patricia A. Kelly

James W. Daehn
310 Remington St.
Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913

MAR 20 2001

March 13, 2001

Senator Baumgart
p.o. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53737-7882

Senator Baumgart:

I believe it is important for our legislators to listen to the people and respond to their wishes with due care. Having been involved in the petition drive over 28,000 signatures were gathered that opposed the hunt. Also, legislative members received over 4,000 letters against the hunt. Finally, attending the April 10th, DNR/Conservation Congress Hearings, over 6,000 turned out to vote against the hunt, thousands more were turned away and not allowed to vote.

In fact, in 1971 the State Legislature outlawed the hunting of Mourning Doves, yet the 2000 Legislature stood back and let a State Agency reinterpret and effectively rewrite our Wisconsin State Status without a single elected State Official casting a vote yes or no.

I listen and enjoy the cooing call of the male. This past week a dove was at my front door. The dove feeds on grains, grass and weeds; builds its nest on top of another bird's deserted nest. Therefore, the doves are not a problem for farmers, game animals or the rest of the natural community, but an asset in the natural balance of nature.

I wonder what kind of state would identify a bird as our peace symbol and then declare it on the state's hunting list. Does that say more about us than we want to know? Does the fact other states allow their shooting make it right for us? How proud it would be to know that Wisconsin will not approve a killing season on doves. In my view these are questions that need to be answered with respect and dignity for the Mourning Dove, as well as ourselves.

I differently oppose the Mourning Dove hunt !!! Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,


JoAnn McCulloch
428 W. Edgewater St.,
Portage, WI 53901
608-742-8265

MAR 13 2001

Dear Senator Baumgart,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 45 sponsored by Senator Moen to outlaw mourning dove hunting in Wisconsin.

There are many reasons not to allow dove hunting in Wisconsin. Chief among them is population figures. In 1996 the DNR estimated fall population numbers at 12 million or more. In 2000 these numbers were as low as 4 million. Documented evidence shows that mourning doves are moving from rural to urban settings and a substantial number of them stay in Wisconsin for the winter. I personally have many mourning doves at my feeders all winter. These are the birds, many of which would still have fledglings, that would primarily be hunted as most of the migratory birds would leave by the Sept. 1 hunting season.

I will also remind you that over 28,000 signatures were gathered opposing the hunt, including my own. The DNR and Legislative members received over 4,000 letters against the hunt and over 6,000 people (including me) turned out in a forum unfamiliar to us to vote against the hunt. I was one of thousands who were turned away and not ever allowed to vote. At the same time many hunting activists from out of Wisconsin were admitted and allowed to vote. Many people were observed holding up both arms and being counted twice.

In 1971 the State Legislature outlawed hunting of mourning doves, yet in 2000 the Legislature stood back and let a state agency reinterpret and rewrite our Wisconsin State Statutes without a single elected state official casting a vote. This is an outrageous way to handle an issue with such strong opposition!

The mourning dove is an asset to the farming and natural community. It consumes only waste grain and seed and digests them thoroughly. It is not a spreader of weeds but a natural herbicide. It is not overpopulated or a problem for farmers. There is no logical reason to hunt it. The dove is also an important food source for birds of prey.

Another important point is that mourning doves are very poor reproducers with frequent nesting failures and a fledging rate averaging only 3 young per breeding season. Also, mourning doves do not flock in the thousands and feed in a large mass in Wisconsin the way they do in the southern states. This behavior in the south is what makes them a popular "game bird" there. The lack of this behavior here could only result in a lot of misidentification of targets and an increase in incidental killing and wounding.

Please right the wrong of last year and vote to pass SB45. The lack of a full vote last year was inexcusable. Surely all of you recognize the huge opposition to this proposal and our voices want to be heard! Stop the mourning dove hunting season now!

Sincerely,

Connie Snyder

Connie Snyder
N1853 Lily of the Valley Dr.
Greenville, WI 54942

MAR 13 2001

JANE SPIINDLER
2116 LAKESIDE BLVD
MANITOWOC WI 54220

Senator James Baumgart
PO Box 7882
Madison WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Baumgart:

I am writing to express my outrage at the thought of Wisconsin's "Official Symbol of Peace", the Mourning Dove, becoming yet another hunting opportunity.

As a concerned citizen of Wisconsin and member of the governing board of Wildlife of Wisconsin – Manitowoc Area Rehabilitators, I urge you to support Senator Moen's Bill (SB 45) to NOT allow hunting of this valuable resource and asset in the natural balance of nature.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely:

Jane Spindler

Dear Senator Baumgart,

MAR 13 2001

I am writing to you in regards on the proposed hunt/kill of the Mourning Dove, our State Symbol of Peace. I am pleading to you to NOT let this hunt happen. On March 22, 2001 when you have your hearing and the Senate Bill comes before you, please vote in favor to NOT ALLOW hunting on the Mourning Dove.

I and my family, along with at least 28,000 other residents of Wisconsin who had signed petitions opposing a the Mourning Dove Hunt, are for the bill protecting the Dove.

I was one of the few who opposed the hunt and who actually attended the last spring hearings to have my vote be counted. Unfortunately I have encountered so many more people who wanted to go, but felt very threatened, or just were not given information to be able to attend. Sadly to say, those of us who did attend the hearings encountered many obstacles and even life-threatening situations. I myself was screamed at by people who were hunters and who opposed my view. When it was time to leave so many of us were in fear of some of the irate hunters as we walked to our cars that night. I felt that the hearings were completely unfair and very biased in the favor of the hunters, as at some DNR spring hearings, hunters were also observed holding up both arms and being counted twice.

In 1971 the State Legislature effectively outlawed the hunting of Mourning Doves, yet the Legislature of 2000 let a State Agency reinterpret our Wisconsin State Statutes without one elected State Official casting a yes or no vote. It was also in 1971 when the Dove was officially declared the State Symbol of Peace, and was a symbol of hope for our many Vietnam veterans returning from the war. Please do not take this away from people who fought so courageously for our country.

Also, the Mourning Dove presents a clear asset to both the farming community and the natural community. The Dove's main diet is of waste grain and weed seed, this helps our natural cycle tremendously, as the doves digest the seeds thoroughly, and in turn produces a natural herbicide. Allowing hunting and reducing or voiding this bird from our environment could potentially be very dangerous.

Please consider all of this when it comes to your turn in doing the right thing, and please oppose the Mourning Dove Hunt along with most of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Linda Kiris & Matt Duckworth
7601 Carrington Drive Apt B
Madison, WI 53719

Mrs. Sara Y. Butler
N4371 19th Ave. N.
Mauston, WI 53948-9513

MAR 14 2001

March 13, 2001

Dear Sen. Baumgart,

I am writing to support
Sen. Mason's Senate Bill to not
allow hunting of mourning doves —
the state "Official Symbol of Peace".

My husband, who is a hunter,
also supports this bill. He
will also sign this letter in support.

I participated in the
petition drive which gathered
over 28,000 signatures.

Please support this bill.

Thank you,

Sara Y. Butler


James E. Butler


218 Humphrey Circle
Shawano, wi 54166
March 14, 2001

Senator Baumgart
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, Wi 53707-7882

Dear Senator:

DNR numbers show a decrease in the mourning dove population from the years 1996 to 2000 going from about 12 million to about 4 million birds. We have seen fewer and fewer mourning doves in our own backyard for this period.

We feel it is unnecessary to add yet another species to the long list of huntables in Wisconsin.

Please support State Senator Moen's Senate Bill (SB45) to not allow the hunting of mourning doves.

Sincerely,

Calvin Brockman
June Brockman

Calvin Brockman
June Brockman

March 14, 2001

Theodora J. Jedry
Edmund S. Jedry
339 Blake St

Baraboo, WI 53913

Senator Baumgart:

Dear Senator Baumgart,

My husband, Edmund S. Jedry and I, Theodora J. Jedry are strongly apposed to the hunting of the mourning dove. We are not against hunting in general but we feel that hunters in Wisconsin have enough wildlife to hunt. Therefore we are very much in favor of State Senator Moer's Senate Bill (SB-45) to not allow hunting of the mourning dove. Please support this bill.

Respectfully yours,

Theodora J. Jedry
Edmund S. Jedry

MAR 12 2001

March 15, 2001.

To Senator Baumgart
P. O. Box 7882
Madison, WI.
53707-7882

Dear Sir:

My husband has been both a hunter and fisherman in the past. (Due to age, etc. - is no longer) I am, ^{not} or ever was, either hunter, or fisher.

I am writing in regard to the bill SB 45 - to not allow hunting of Wisconsin "official Symbol of Peace", that will receive a hearing before the Committee on E. Resources sometime in March 2001. Since you are a member of this committee (or so I've been informed) may I address my opinions, & concern to you, concerning this issue?

I did attend a meeting on "Mourning Doves" (& voted) this past year. I received a pamphlet compiled by the Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources which I read, & studied. From that, & other sources, I concluded that there is no compelling or reasonable factors for the licensed hunting, and killing, of these birds. The "Pleasure of the hunt" should not be the deciding factor - in my opinion, (for the hunting of)

In my opinion - there ^{is} needs to met concerning the care and preservation of all of our natural resources - be they forests, land, plant, & all forms

of life - including animal, & human.)
We need to preserve and protect and
where needed, - cultivate, and harvest,
some resources, if that is the need.
We need wise, and skillful management,
& money to do so, and in relation to
hunting, & those "resources" we need -
leaders to help us in Wisconsin, ^(+ U.S.A.) so
we can do what is best for the
"total picture" of our ^(old) resources. The
temporary pleasures of certain individuals
should not be the prime consideration,
of our rules and laws.

It appears to me there is a great need
(& money needed) now to try to replenish,
replace, and repair, so much of our
natural sources - including birds, animals,
fish, & wild life - what has already
been destroyed by mismanagement - etc. -
& become "endangered species" that
we already have, we ought not to
create more. Let's not add to the
sometimes unexplained lists of "The
Endangered Species".

Thank you for your consideration
of these matters.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Wendell Nelson
1211 Ninth St.
Green Bay
WI.
54304.

MAR 19 2001

March 15, 2001

Sen. Baumgart
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

I am unable to attend the hearing on March 22nd of State Sen. Maes's bill to not allow hunting of Mourning Doves.

I wish to state to you and the other members of the committee that I am for this bill and against the hunt.

Here in Wisconsin the Mourning Dove population, according to the D.N.R., has dropped by 8 million in 4 years.

These birds of prey are not a problem for anyone, but an asset in the natural balance.

I would appreciate my right — to enjoy this gentle bird.

Sincerely,
Jerry Lorenz (Mrs)
2616 W. Lake Forest Court
Mequon, WI, 53092

Henderson, Patrick

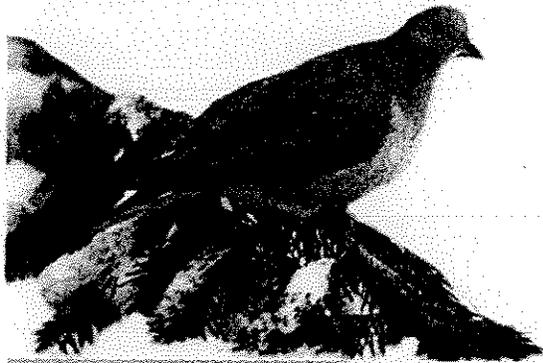
From: P Reinert [reinert@spacestar.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2001 5:02 PM
To: Sen.Baumgart@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Mourning Doves

Dear Senator Baumgart,

I want to let you know that I support the drafted bill by Rep. Boyle to prohibit the hunting of mourning doves.

Thank you.

Patricia Cummings-Reinert
N3821 New Knapp Road
Shell Lake, WI 54871



Wisconsin Dove Hunters

*Dedicated to the Legal Hunting of
America's Most Popular Game Bird*

Points of Interest

3/09/2001

- Home
- Abundance
- Biology & Management
- Hunting
- Message Board
- Regulations Development
- Statistics
- Conclusion

Search:

Help on Searching

Dove Recipes

- Dove Stir-Fry
- Dove Kabobs
- Bacon BBQ Bird
- Sauerkraut Dove
- Dove with Mushrooms
- Skillet Dove

Related Links

- National Dove Association

Bill Introduced to Ban Dove Hunt Goes to Senate Hearing!

Anti-hunters Vow to Defeat the Hunting Community.

Thursday, March 22 is the day that anti-hunters are hoping to defeat the sportsmen and women of Wisconsin. Alliance for Animals and other anti-hunting groups are planning on huge turnout of animal rights activists. **Hearing is set for 9:30 a.m. in Room 411S.**

Senate Bill 45 analysis reads: "Under rules promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), there is an open season for the hunting of mourning doves. *This bill prohibits DNR from authorizing an open season for dove hunting and imposes a specific ban against the hunting of doves.*"

Take Action Today!

- No Dove Hunt
- Safari Club International
- Wisconsin DNR
- Wisconsin Waterfowl Association
- Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Contact & Concerns

- Contact James Weix



According to Jay Reed, well known outdoor writer for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, it was the mourning dove season that gave us momentum to get action on a constitutional guarantee to hunt, fish and trap.

According to Reed, in his Sunday, March 11 *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* column: "Then, it will be recalled, is when Wisconsin's hunting and fishing community came to fully understand and realize the growing power and influence of the anti-hunting movement here."

Reed goes on to state that " ...they represent a significant threat to hunting, fishing and trapping - endeavors it is their avowed goal to end."

We also learned that the anti-hunters can be defeated if we stand united. We can defeat ignorance!

It is not about dove hunting...

It is about all hunting!!!

Please attend the hearing and be heard.

Site design by Digital-Authority, LLC

Monday, April 10, 2000

Monday, April 10, 2000, the Anti-Hunting Coalition will have a surprise for you...

By the election of an annual rights activist to the Wisconsin Conservation and Game Hearings, you folks have witnessed an all out effort to prevent the Spring Fish & Game Hearings from being held on April 10, 2000. The Wisconsin Conservation and Game Hearings have pledged to reimburse sportsmen costs of the hearings in every county in the state and to elect several rights activists to the Conservation Commission. They are also downing all pro-hunting, fishing and hunting organizations.

Organize to Defeat Rights Groups...

The Wisconsin Dove Hunter's Association, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, and the Wisconsin Waterfowl Club have endorsed a dove season or their endorsement of it. We can defeat the annual by attending the Spring hearings in your county April 10, 2000. Call your local DNR office. You should also contact your state and the WDNR Board. Let them know of the hunters, not animal rights fanatic, who are managing our natural resources.

Hunting is just Beginning.

Hunting organizations in America are not just about hunting. They are the Fund for the Future and The Humane Society. The Humane Society (HSUS). The Humane Society, an animal rights organization, has pledged to keep us from sport hunting.

Up To You To The Animal People...

Attend the Spring Fish & Game Hearings in your county on April 10, 2000. Remember, a vote for hunting is a vote for...

It's Not About DOVE

HUNTING

It's About ALL

HUNTING



Wisconsin Dove Hunter's Association

Dedicated to the Legal Hunting in Wisconsin of America's Most Popular Game Bird
Post Office Box 23

Doves Are America's and Wisconsin's Most Abundant Game Bird...

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says the mourning dove is the most abundant game bird in the nation - there are over 475 million of them in all. That is more than all species of ducks and geese combined. Wisconsin hosts over 10 million doves each year. The mourning dove is among the most prolific breeders of all birds and can nest in a variety of habitats. This is a major reason for its abundance.

Doves are America's Favorite Game Bird...

Nearly 2.5 million people hunt doves each year. More hunters go after doves than any other game bird. The mid-early season dove hunt season provides a perfect time to involve youngsters, the aged and handicapped people in hunting. Doves, which are acrobatic in flight, reach speeds of up to 65 mph, are considered by hunters the most challenging game bird.

Recent DNR Studies Support Dove Hunting...

The professional biologists of the DNR say that hunting doves is not harmful to the species' future, as long as they are managed correctly. Over 75 years, dove populations have been regulated by international treaty. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which has primary responsibility for dove populations, permits all the states to set hunting seasons within a scientific framework designed to ensure a healthy dove population each year.

Doves are Good Eats and A Natural Source of Protein...

The dove's delectable flesh has helped make it America's Number One game bird. It is three times as filling and delicious as beef. Fried, broiled, barbecued, baked or braised, the dove's rich, tender meat is highly prized as the subject of hundreds of recipes in well known cookbooks.

Senate Committee on The Environment

- Senate Committee on the dove hunt bill

My name is Don Cashmore. I am from New London and I own a bait shop on the Wolf River. I have been involved in this issue since spring of last year. Jim Weix of the Wi. Dove Hunters Assoc. came into my shop last spring with a poster he wanted me to display in my shop. The poster was a warning to hunters about the up coming APR 10th DNR spring hearings and how they had better get out and vote because the ANTI-HUNTERS were planning on coming out in force to take away their hunting rights!! In boldletters running down the middle of the poster it said and I quote,

"IT'S NOT ABOUT DOVE HUNTING IT'S ABOUT ALL HUNTING". The plot of those in favor of the hunting of our state symbol of peace, has been from the start, to make this a two sided issue HUNTERS vs ANTI-HUNTERS. IT ISN'T ABOUT DOVE HUNTING ! IT'S ABOUT ALL HUNTING has been the battle cry of the PRO-DOVE HUNTING PEOPLE! Lost in this battle of hypocrites has been the fact that in 1971 then Governor of the STATE of WI. GOV. LUCEY signed into LAW SENATE BILL 422 naming the MOURNING DOVE as THE STATE SYMBOL OF PEACE in hopes those returning veterans from the Vietnam War would find some solitude in COMING HOME. Lost in all this HUNTER vs ANTI-HUNTER gibberish is that

hunting in the state of wisconsin is a privilege not a right!! As we have all heard before "WE HUNT THE STATE WILDLIFE ANIMAL, WE FISH FOR THE STATE FISH and WE CUT DOWN THE STATE TREE, BUT WE DO NOT HUNT THE STATE ANIMAL, WE DO NOT HUNT THE STATE BIRD, WE DO NOT PICK THE STATE FLOWER nor DESICRATE OUR STATE FLAG.. The theory behind all this hunter anti-hunter rhetoric, is that if you do not allow the hunting of the MOURNING DOVE all hunting will be abolished. NON-SENSE. Voted down in 1971 and again in 1989 the sportmen of Wisconsin have not lost a single hunting privilege!! As a matter of fact the sportmens' hunting privileges have blossomed to include not only the WOOD COCK, THE CROW and THE WILD TURKEY, but also numerous DUCKS have also been add to the list of hunted species in the STATE of WI. So there is NO TRUTH to the bizzare rantings that this ISN'T ABOUT THE HUNTING of MOURNING DOVES, but about ALL HUNTING !!! IT IS MOST CERTAINLY ABOUT THE HUNTING OF OUR STATE SYMBOL OF PEACE!!! As a returning Vietnam Veteran is was spit upon and cursed at as I walked through the San Francisco Cal. Airport in the UNITED STATES of AMERICA. MY OWN HOME COUNTRY!!! If you allow this to become an issue decided on by a partisan vote and held captive by one

Representative DUWAYNE JOHNSRUD, instead of by the will of the people, you are again spitting upon me in a STATE I call my home!!! If you believe that only those that buy hunting and fishing licenses should be allowed to vote on hunting and fishing issues, then just maybe the only people of America that should be allowed to vote on any privileges we have are the SOLDIERS who fought to make this a Country OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE.. And as the phone calls, letters and emails have told you, THE PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE of THE STATE of WISCONSIN, by overwhelming numbers, do not want a MOURNING DOVE HUNT in THEIR STATE.. It is a FREEDOM to SPEAK!! It is the RIGHT to be HEARD.. I have been maligned and my buisness threatened with a boycott by the likes of Jim Weix, his Wi. Dove Hunters Assoc. and Teddy Nugent and his United Sportsmen of America..

Why?

Thank You,

Donald F. Cashmore
1205 Wolf River ave.
New London W. 54961
920 982-4802

MAR 19 2001

DAVID C. MACLAUGHLIN
2805 Seventh Street
Eau Claire, WI 54703
(715) 835-5552

March 16, 2001

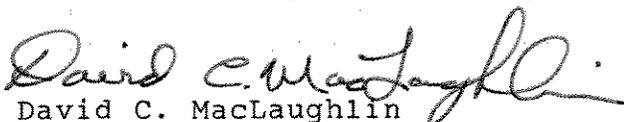
Dear Senator Baumgart:

I am writing to let you know that you have my sincere and wholehearted support for the passage of Senate Bill 45 which I understand prohibits the hunting of the mourning dove in Wisconsin. I will briefly explain why I am very deeply concerned with this issue.

My wife and I have been feeding birds for almost 30 years at a feeding station located about 20 feet from a picture window in our kitchen. We have over this many years built up a tremendous following of birds which include cardinals, chickadees, juncos, finches, bluejays, etc. But none of these bird species have captured our hearts like the beautiful, docile, quiet and completely non-aggressive mourning dove. This recent winter, on any given evening, we have had a flock of 15 to 25 or more mourning doves show up just before sunset. They usually arrive in pairs, without a sound, drop down to the ground and waddle awkwardly around in complete silence, eating for far too short a time, after which they simply sit in a snowbank or on the birdbath until it gets quite dark. And then---as silently as they came---they are gone.

How in the world can anyone justify killing these gentle and completely harmless creatures? They hurt no one. They destroy nothing. Why should we allow these beautiful, shy, and extremely gentle creatures to be gunned down simply because someone with a shotgun might want to say to a friend: "What a beautiful day. Let's get our guns and go out and kill something." It makes no sense whatsoever. There is no hunter in Wisconsin who is going to hunt these birds for food because they are hungry. They will be doing it only because---as I have said---they feel the need to kill something on that particular day.

I am not, ~~nor~~ have I ever been against hunting per se. I am just trying to speak for those gentle, completely non-aggressive creatures who cause no harm to anyone and cannot speak for themselves. There are thousands upon thousands of people in Wisconsin who I know feel exactly the way I do about the mourning doves. Why don't we have a right to be heard? Why did we not get a chance to vote on this issue? This mourning dove thing is a much bigger issue than a lot of hunters realize. If it is not stopped it is going to cause a real rift between the hunters and non-hunters in this state. I truly pray that politicians and hunters with any common sense or compassion at all will have the brains to back off on this issue and let these lovely birds, who offend no one, continue to live with the peace and dignity they so richly deserve.


David C. MacLaughlin

Henderson, Patrick

From: pderoy@morton.com
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2001 10:32 AM
To: sen.huelsman@legis.state.wi.us; rep.bass@legis.state.wi; rep.jensen@legis.state.wi.us;
rep.vrkas@legis.state.wi.us; sen.baumgart@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: The senseless slaughter of our State bird - the Mourning Dove

Dear Senators and Representatives of Walworth County:

I am pleading with you to vote for bill SB 45 (Not to hunt the symbol of peace). Mourning Doves are NOT plentiful in Wisconsin nor anywhere else. I imagine it was designated our State bird due to its gentle, unimposing nature and its beauty. What kind of message are you sending to the young people who live in Wisconsin that while we formerly thought enough of the Mourning Dove to make it our state bird, we now think so little of it we're going to allow grown men to go out and shoot it down for the simple reason that it exists.

It seems to me that hunters think if it lives, moves and breathes, shoot it! I can't comprehend that kind of mind set. The only way a hunter can shoot a mourning dove is with buckshot. No one can convince me that today's hunter is going to pick the buckshot out of those little birds and actually eat it. They simply want something new to kill and will undoubtedly leave it there broken and bleeding on the ground and walk away looking for the next unwary bird to draw bead on.

Our forefathers needed to hunt to feed themselves and their families, that is certainly not the case in our modern world. It's called a sport...some people really have fun killing wildlife and I suppose it gets rather tedious shooting the same animals year after year. Apparently one day someone looked up and saw a Mourning Dove resting on a telephone wire. He didn't hear the soothing, soft mournful sounds it made, nor see or appreciate the perfection of its silhouette nor the beauty of its plummage nor its lovely face. He said to himself, "Hey, now - I want to shoot that bird." and the idea was born.

When I was a girl, clouds and clouds of birds would fly over as dusk approached, looking for a place to rest for the night. Sometimes it took 15 or 20 minutes before they all had flown past. It was a common sight. Today, due to loss of habitat and chemical poisoning, there aren't that many birds around.

Please spare the Mourning Dove. Let those lovely birds live for us, our children and our children's children to enjoy.

Cordially,

Pamela J. deRoy
308 Country Club Drive
Lake Geneva, WI 53147
262/249-0544

Henderson, Patrick

From: Hedges, Mike [mikeh@amerymedical.com]
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2001 9:34 AM
To: 'Sen.Baumgart@legis.state.wi.us'
Subject: mourning doves

Dear Senator,

I am e-mailing you in regards to the mourning dove hunt that is trying to be passed in our state.

I feel we need to protect the mourning doves. They mate for life and I think it would be tragic to have them hunted. There are plenty of other game birds in our state that can be hunted. Please save the mourning doves!

A concerned citizen
Jody Hadac
e-mail

xraycoyotejh@yahoo.com

Henderson, Patrick

From: Jamesweix@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2001 7:15 PM
To: Sen.Baumgart@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Dove Issue

According to Jay Reed, well known outdoor writer for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, it was the mourning dove season that gave us momentum to get action on a constitutional guarantee to hunt, fish and trap. According to Reed, in his Sunday, March 11 *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* column: "Then, it will be recalled, is when Wisconsin's hunting and fishing community came to fully understand and realize the growing power and influence of the anti-hunting movement here." Reed goes on to state that "...they represent a significant threat to hunting, fishing and trapping - endeavors it is their avowed goal to end."

We also learned that the anti-hunters can be defeated if we stand united. We can defeat ignorance!

It is not about dove hunting...It is about all hunting!!!

Jim Weix, President

Wisconsin Dove Hunter's Association

W1799 Golden Beach Way, Mukwonago, WI 53149

Work: (262) 642-4288

Home: (262) 363-4441

Wisconsin Dove Hunter's Homepage <<http://www.widovehunt.com/>>

Henderson, Patrick

From: Nancy Dillman [Nancy@Baraboo.net]
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2001 12:19 PM
To: sen.baumgart@legis.state.wi.us; sen.hansen@legis.state.wi.us; sen.wirch@legis.state.wi.us;
sen.cowles@legis.state.wi.us; sen.schultz@legis.state.wi.us
Subject: Senate Bill 45

Dear Senators,

I urge you to please support Senate Bill 45 prohibiting the hunting of the mourning dove, the state symbol of peace. Hunting this bird would send the wrong message, namely that peace is a meaningless concept. Wisconsin hunters already have enough animals and birds to shoot. Leave the mourning dove alone!

Thank you,

Nancy Jo Dillman
P.O. Box 178
Baraboo, WI 53913
(608) 356-7805

mar. 16, 2001

Senator Jim Baumgart, Chairman,
Senate Committee on Environmental Resources
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Sen. Baumgart and Committee members:

I am very much in favor of S.B. 45 re: prohibiting the hunting of the bird that is the symbol of peace for this state - the mourning dove.

Desecrating the state symbol of peace by shooting at it (especially by those who would teach children to do so), indicates an attitude of contempt toward what that symbol stands for!

The mourning dove has been the state symbol of peace for 30 years - 1971-2001. Now is not the time to start trying to shoot it down! Now is the time to respect what it stands for by protecting it.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jeannine M. Prager
78 - W27947 Northview Rd.
Waukesha, WI 53188

P.S. Please give copies of this to committee members.
(I'm sorry I cannot get to the hearing 3-22-01)

Eskeitz, Anne

From: Schoneman Jeff [Jeff.Schoneman@kohlerco.com]
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2001 11:01 AM
To: adam N. Payne (E-mail); Al Witt (E-mail); Anne Eskeitz (E-mail); Anthony Ulezelski; Dale Kastma (E-mail); Dave nett (E-mail); Denny Leloo (E-mail); Dick Boehnlein (E-mail); Gail Ulezelski (E-mail); Geoff Schramm (E-mail); George Meyer (E-mail); Gloria McCutheon (E-mail); Gus Ernst (E-mail); Herb Kohl (E-mail); James Baumgart (E-mail); James Sensenbrenner Jr. (E-mail); Jim Koenig; Jim McNelly (E-mail); Joe McKillips (E-mail); John Nelson (E-mail); John Wilde (E-mail); Julie Glancey (E-mail); Kathleen Wolski (E-mail); Kevin Zimmermann (E-mail); Kristi Sorenson (E-mail); Lil Meerstein (E-mail); Mark Leider (E-mail); Mark Pearce (E-mail); Mary Panzer (E-mail); Matthew Coffaro (E-mail); Maureen Mack (E-mail); Mike Demaster (E-mail); Nancy Jusky (E-mail); Peter Brickner; Rep. Joe Leibham (E-mail); Rick Wakefield (E-mail); Roger Cotter; Ron Holler; Roy Kalmerton (E-mail); Russell D. Feingold (E-mail); schoneman ric; Scott Johnson (E-mail); Steve Kestell (E-mail)
Subject: FW: dove issue
Importance: High

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Meerstein Lillian
> Sent: Friday, March 16, 2001 9:59 AM
> To: Ulezelski Anthony; Schoneman Jeff; 'pigeonr@bytehead.com';
> 'demasmjd@co.sheboygan.wi.us'; 'schrages@co.sheboygan.wi.us'
> Subject: dove issue
> Importance: High

>
> Received a phone call late last night from the State Turkey President
> (Chuck Zorn) telling me that Senator Baumgart has set next Thursday, Mar.
> 22nd for hearings on the Dove issue. Regarding turning over the right to
> hunt. Senator Baumgart's office told me and so did he a few weeks ago that
> this would not happen. We need to call and put pressure on him not to do
> this. We were given this right last year and the Spring Hearings were
> very clear on this fact. How can he turn against us.
> I encourage you to call him, call everyone you know to call and put
> pressure on him.

>
> Also, Spring Hearings has a anti running for congress in Dane County.
> They have send a warning to let us know to be on guard for anything
> happening that night.

>
> We need to really push on these issues. Thanks for all your help. Pass
> on the word.

>
> Sincerely yours in conservation,

>
> Lil Meerstein

Eskeitz, Anne

From: Ulezelski Anthony [Anthony.Ulezelski@kohlerco.com]
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2001 10:59 AM
To: 'anne.eskeitz@legis.state.wi.us'
Subject: FW: dove issue

Importance: High

FYI

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> 'demasmjd@co.sheboygan.wi.us'; 'schrages@co.sheboygan.wi.us'
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K. Sh. Lev
write letter
bi-partisan
don't let GOP do
balls sit a heavy!
congress
not
let many
bill

mar. 16, 2001

Senator Jim Baumgart, Chairman,
Senate Committee on Environmental Resources
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

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Mrs. Jeannine M. Prager
78 - W27947 Northview Rd.
Waukesha, WI 53188

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(I'm sorry I cannot get to the hearing 3-22-01)

MAR 20 2001

March 17, 2001

Senator Jim Baumgart, Chrm.
Senate Committee on Environmental Resources
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Baumgart and Committee:

Re: S.B. 45

I am very sorry not to be able to attend the hearing Mar. 22, 2001, on this bill. I wish to convey my opinion, nowever.

I am very much in favor of S.B. 45 which would prohibit the hunting of our state symbol of peace, the mourning dove.

Shooting at that symbol symbolizes contempt and disdain for what it stands for. The dove has been used as a symbol of peace countless ways and for many, many years--30 years in our state.

It just doesn't make sense to have a law that legalizes shooting at what our state has set forth as being a symbol of peace. What kind of a message does that give to all the school children who have learned about that symbol? Think about that, please. *(I have six children).*

Hunters seem to be waging a power struggle over this issue. I wish they could see beyond the barrels of their guns and realize the mourning dove has more value as a protected symbol of peace than it does as another target to shoot at!

This letter is intended for all members of the Committee.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Mary Ann Durrie
1025 Canterbury Lane
Waukesha, WI 53188*

MAR 20 2001

3-17-01

Dear Sen. Baumgart

I strongly oppose mourning dove hunting - see no reason for it.

Maybe "killers" won't come to my feeder, but around the corner from my house doves "pick" on the road. Every time I go down that way, I will worry about a bullet in my head from those "poor" people that think they are entitled to that 1 oz of meat

The way I see hunters - they just want to "show us" they can do it

Mrs. Butler

Umrs

MAR 20 2001

March 17, 2001

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Senate Committee on Environmental Resources
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

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Sincerely,

Janet A. Maier
N 700 W 2782 North View Rd
Waukesha, WI 53188