

Senate Resolution 229

By: Senators Watson of the 11th, Tillery of the 19th, Goodman of the 8th, Anderson of the 24th, Summers of the 13th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the National Wild Turkey
2 Federation Inc. and recognizing its significant contributions to scientific wildlife
3 management, research, and habitat conservation as well as its promotion and protection of
4 the long-honored outdoor traditions of the United States of America; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the National Wild Turkey Federation Inc. was incorporated on March 28, 1973,
6 in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and it moved its headquarters to Edgefield, South Carolina, that
7 same year; and

8 WHEREAS, over the course of 50 years, the National Wild Turkey Federation Inc. and
9 millions of members and chapters across the nation have worked with state, federal, and
10 non-governmental partners to promote the conservation of the wild turkey and the
11 preservation of our hunting heritage, participating in one of the greatest conservation success
12 stories in American history; the return of the wild turkey from the brink of extinction; and

13 WHEREAS, the National Wild Turkey Federation Inc. and its members and chapters have
14 been at the vanguard of reversing declining hunting participation through nationwide
15 investment in hunter recruitment, retention, and reactivation efforts and partnerships with
16 states to develop opportunities to engage people from all walks of life in the outdoors

17 tradition. Since 2012, the federation has recruited and reactivated more than 1.5 million
18 hunters; and

19 WHEREAS, the National Wild Turkey Federation Inc. and its members and chapters have
20 invested more than half a billion dollars to conserve or enhance more than 22 million acres
21 of critical wildlife habitat, forests, and grasslands across public and private lands since 1985;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, the National Wild Turkey Federation Inc. and its members and chapters have
24 invested more than \$8.5 million in research throughout North America to ensure healthy wild
25 turkey populations into the future; and

26 WHEREAS, the National Wild Turkey Federation Inc. is the largest and longest-serving
27 non-governmental stewardship partner of the USDA Forest Service, conserving habitat on
28 National Forest System Lands for more than 40 years and heavily engaging in the
29 development and implementation of the USDA's Wildfire Crisis Strategy.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 recognize and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Wild Turkey Federation and
32 salute the organization as well as its chapters and members from across the United States for
33 their tremendous efforts to further scientific state-led wildlife management and the
34 conservation of America's wild turkey and its habitat. We wish the National Wild Turkey
35 Federation Inc. and its members and chapters the best for the future as they continue to
36 deliver on their mission by working across land-ownership boundaries on a landscape scale
37 to increase clean and abundant water, healthy forests and wildlife habitat, resilient
38 communities, and robust recreational opportunities across the country.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the National Wild
41 Turkey Federation Inc.