

A RESOLUTION urging Congress to enact legislation enhancing hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other outdoor recreational opportunities, and to strengthen conservation efforts nationwide.

WHEREAS, hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreational opportunities are an extension of American heritage as noted in the histories of Daniel Boone and George Rogers Clark through the Westward expansion; and

WHEREAS, outdoor opportunities to hunt and fish have formed a unique cultural bond for Americans and have had a positive influence on American society creating wholesome recreational activities for families; and

WHEREAS, today nearly half of Americans participate in some type of outdoor recreation, but over the last several decades interest in hunting and fishing has declined; and

WHEREAS, the decline in interest has paralleled reductions in access to open public land, higher cost of hunting and fishing permits, and changes in public attitudes towards hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting; and

WHEREAS, the number of hunting licenses purchased nationally has declined from over 40 million in 1970 to 12.6 million today with declines in the number of youth participating in hunting; and

WHEREAS, the hunting and fishing industries have an overall economic output of \$86.9 billion and \$114 billion, respectively, and create approximately 680,000 jobs and 828,000 jobs, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the decline of participation in outdoor activities like hunting and fishing have a ripple effect economically and action is needed to reverse that effect;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The members of the Senate urge Congress to enact legislation

enhancing hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other outdoor recreational opportunities, and to strengthen conservation efforts nationwide.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to send copies of this Resolution to the members of Kentucky's Congressional delegation.