

Reps. McBroom, Bumstead, Kelly, Cole, Outman, Victory, Johnson, Chatfield, Brett Roberts, Inman, Potvin, LaVoy, Yonker, Lyons, Nesbitt, Goike, Pettalia, Kivela, Franz, Dianda, Aaron Miller, Rendon, Santana, Faris, Heise, Hooker and Maturen offered the following concurrent resolution:

House Concurrent Resolution No. 22.

A concurrent resolution to urge the United States Congress to enact legislation that will enhance hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other outdoor recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women nationwide.

Whereas, Conservation in the United States is funded primarily by sportsmen and women. This American System of Conservation Funding is a user pays – public benefits approach that includes excise taxes on hunting, fishing, and boating equipment. This strategy is widely recognized as the most successful model of fish and wildlife management funding in the world; and

Whereas, Through the pursuit of their outdoor passions, sportsmen and women support hundreds of thousands of jobs and contribute billions to our economy annually through salaries, wages, and product purchases; and

Whereas, Currently pending legislation in the U.S. Senate would create or renew several important programs that are vital to the continued conservation of our natural resources, the health of America’s local economies, and the enhancement and protection of our time-honored outdoor pastimes. Senate Bill 659, the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015, pulls together fourteen separate programs that impact sportsmen. The bill will advance the cause of making public lands more accessible for multiple recreational uses including hunting and fishing; and

Whereas, The bill will renew several important programs, including reauthorization of the federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The reauthorization of these programs as well as the creation of new programs will enhance opportunities for outdoor recreation enthusiasts, improve access to public lands, and help boost the outdoor recreation economy. Conserving our fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, and ensuring that future generations have access to public lands and continued recreational opportunities protects our hunting, shooting, and conservation heritage for generations to come; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That we urge the United States Congress to enact legislation that will enhance hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other outdoor recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women nationwide; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.