

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. RES. 529

To affirm this Nation's tradition of hunting on wildlife refuges.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 21, 1994

Mr. WILLIAMS (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. LAROCO, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Ms. LAMBERT, Mr. FIELDS of Texas, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. WALSH, Mr. BARCIA of Michigan, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. BREWSTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. PARKER, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. EMERSON, and Mr. BOUCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries

RESOLUTION

To affirm this Nation's tradition of hunting on wildlife refuges.

Whereas the first national wildlife refuge was established in 1903; and since that time the number has grown to four hundred and ninety-nine refuges located in all regions of the United States;

Whereas the Refuge System can selectively accommodate a variety of recreational uses and is authorized to do so under existing law;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act explicitly authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to permit recreational hunting on national wildlife refuges;

Whereas recreational hunting is a traditional public use of wildlife refuges enjoyed by millions of Americans;

Whereas recreational hunters provide vital funds for refuge acquisition through Duck Stamp purchases and other means;

Whereas recreational hunting is an important management tool for maintaining certain wildlife populations and protecting biodiversity;

Whereas professional refuge managers have pursued policies that helped protect endangered species and restore our great herds of elk, deer, antelope, and flocks of migratory birds;

Whereas some people for philosophical reasons would prohibit appropriate and sometimes necessary recreational hunting on refuges and other public lands; and

Whereas the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is conducting a review of the public uses of National Wildlife refuges, including traditional hunting and fishing, to determine the compatibility of these uses with refuge purposes: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Congress of the United States rec-
2 ognizes the need for and desirability of recreational hunt-
3 ing and fishing on national wildlife refuges; recognizes
4 both the financial and organizational support provided by
5 these recreational activities to our national wildlife refuges
6 and other Federal lands; and commends our professional
7 refuge managers who work diligently to enhance our wild-
8 life resources.