

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 877

To amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to modernize the funding of wildlife conservation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 2019

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. HUDSON, and Mrs. DINGELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to modernize the funding of wildlife conservation, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Modernizing the Pitt-
5 man-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow’s Needs Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The first section of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife
8 Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669) is amended by adding
9 at the end the following: “One of the purposes of this Act

1 is to provide financial and technical assistance to the
2 States for the promotion of hunting and recreational
3 shooting.”.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5 Section 2 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restora-
6 tion Act (16 U.S.C. 669a) is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through
8 (8) as paragraphs (4) through (10), respectively;
9 and

10 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(2) for the purposes of determining the num-
13 ber of paid hunting-license holders in a State, the
14 term ‘fiscal year’ means the fiscal year or license
15 year of the State;

16 “(3) the term ‘hunter recruitment and rec-
17 reational shooter recruitment’ means any activity or
18 project to recruit or retain hunters and recreational
19 shooters, including by—

20 “(A) outreach and communications as a
21 means—

22 “(i) to improve communications with
23 hunters, recreational shooters, and the
24 general public with respect to hunting and
25 recreational shooting opportunities;

1 “(ii) to reduce barriers to participa-
2 tion in these activities;

3 “(iii) to advance the adoption of
4 sound hunting and recreational shooting
5 practices;

6 “(iv) to promote conservation and the
7 responsible use of the wildlife resources of
8 the United States; and

9 “(v) to further safety in hunting and
10 recreational shooting;

11 “(B) providing education, mentoring, and
12 field demonstrations;

13 “(C) enhancing access for hunting and rec-
14 reational shooting, including through range con-
15 struction; and

16 “(D) providing education to the public
17 about the role of hunting and recreational
18 shooting in funding wildlife conservation;”.

19 **SEC. 4. APPORTIONMENT OF AVAILABLE AMOUNTS.**

20 (a) APPORTIONMENT OF CERTAIN TAXES.—The first
21 subsection (c) of section 4 of the Pittman-Robertson Wild-
22 life Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669c) is amended—

23 (1) by inserting “APPORTIONMENT OF REVE-
24 NUES FROM PISTOLS, REVOLVERS, BOWS, AND AR-
25 ROWS.—” after the enumerator;

1 (2) by striking “One-half” and inserting the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ”;

5 (3) by striking “: *Provided, That*” and inserting
6 a period;

7 (4) by striking “each State shall be apportioned
8 not more than 3 per centum and not less than 1 per
9 centum of such revenues” and inserting the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(2) CONDITION.—The amount apportioned to
12 each State under paragraph (1) shall be not greater
13 than 3 percent and not less than 1 percent of the
14 revenues described in such paragraph”;

15 (5) by striking “For the purpose” and inserting
16 the following:

17 “(3) POPULATION DETERMINATION.—For the
18 purpose”; and

19 (6) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(4) USE OF FUNDS.—In addition to other uses
21 authorized under this Act, amounts apportioned
22 under this subsection may be used for hunter re-
23 cruitment and recreational shooter recruitment.”.

24 (b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 4 of the Pitt-
25 man-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669c)

1 is amended by redesignating the second subsection (c) and
2 subsection (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

3 **SEC. 5. EXPENDITURES FOR MANAGEMENT OF WILDLIFE**
4 **AREAS AND RESOURCES.**

5 Section 8 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restora-
6 tion Act (16 U.S.C. 669g) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), in the third sentence, by
8 striking “and public relations”; and

9 (2) in subsection (b), in the first sentence, by
10 striking “, as a part of such program”.

11 **SEC. 6. FIREARM AND BOW HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFE-**
12 **TY PROGRAM GRANTS.**

13 Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Pittman-Robertson Wild-
14 life Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669h–1(a)(1)(A)) is
15 amended—

16 (1) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end;
17 and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(v) the enhancement of hunter re-
20 cruitment and recreational shooter recruit-
21 ment; and”.

22 **SEC. 7. MULTISTATE CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11 of the Pittman-Robert-
24 son Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669h–2) is
25 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

2 (A) by striking “Not more than” and in-
3 serting the following:

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not more than”; and

5 (B) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(B) AVAILABILITY FOR HUNTER AND
7 RECREATIONAL SHOOTER GRANTS.—Not more
8 than \$5,000,000 of the revenues covered into
9 the fund from any tax imposed under section
10 4161(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
11 for a fiscal year shall be available to the Sec-
12 retary exclusively for making hunter recruit-
13 ment and recreational shooter recruitment
14 grants that promote a national hunting and
15 shooting sport recruitment program, including
16 related communication and outreach activi-
17 ties.”;

18 (2) in the matter preceding subsection
19 (b)(3)(A), by striking “International”;

20 (3) in the matter preceding subsection
21 (c)(2)(A)(i), by striking “International”;

22 (4) in subsection (c)(2)(A)(i), by inserting “or
23 to recreational shooting activities” after “wildlife”;
24 and

1 (5) in subsection (d), by inserting “or to rec-
2 reational shooting activities” after “wildlife”.

3 (b) STUDY.—Not later than 10 years after the date
4 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior,
5 acting through the Director of the United States Fish and
6 Wildlife Service, shall—

7 (1) review and evaluate the effects of the funds
8 made available under subparagraph (B) of section
9 11(a)(1) of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restora-
10 tion Act (16 U.S.C. 669h–2(a)(1)) (as added by sub-
11 section (a)(1)(B)) on funds available for wildlife con-
12 servation; and

13 (2) submit a report describing the results of the
14 review and evaluation under paragraph (1) to—

15 (A) the Committee on Environment and
16 Public Works of the Senate; and

17 (B) the Committee on Natural Resources
18 of the House of Representatives.

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