



**Testimony of Hunting Works For Pennsylvania
Janet Nyce, Joe Keffer and Vern Ross, co-chairs**

IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1070

An Act amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in hunting and furtaking, further providing for prohibition on Sunday hunting and providing for regulation of Sunday hunting by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Hunting Works For Pennsylvania would like to thank Chairman Scavello, Minority Chairman Brewster and the members of the Senate Game and Fisheries Committee for the opportunity to provide our testimony in support of Senate Bill 1070, which would allow the Pennsylvania Game Commission to regulate hunting on Sundays. This is an important piece of legislation for Pennsylvania's sportsmen and sportswomen as well as businesses throughout the commonwealth.

Hunting Works For Pennsylvania is an organization that is made up of Pennsylvania businesses, trade associations, sporting organizations and conservation groups that understand the important role that hunting and the shooting sports play on Pennsylvania's economy. In 2013, we launched Hunting Works For Pennsylvania with a press conference in the Rotunda of the Pennsylvania Capitol. To date, we have over 120 partners representing a cross-section of the Pennsylvania economy.

As the members of this committee already understand, hunting specifically supports thousands of jobs, both rural and urban, across Pennsylvania. Our mission is to promote the strong economic partnership between the hunting and shooting communities and the economy of Pennsylvania.

Restaurants, hotels, motels, resorts, chambers of commerce, convention and visitors bureaus, hardware stores, sporting goods stores, convenience stores, grocery stores, gas stations and countless other businesses throughout Pennsylvania understand just how important hunters are to our economy. Consider some of these facts:

Hunting is part of Pennsylvania's culture.

- Nearly 1 million people hunt in Pennsylvania each year.
- Pennsylvania welcomes about 76,000 hunters from out of state each year
- 18.2 million days are spent hunting in Pennsylvania, annually.

Hunting Supports Pennsylvania's Economy.

- The average Pennsylvania hunter spends \$1,260 each year.
- Hunters support over 15,000 jobs in Pennsylvania.
- Hunting generates \$529 million in salaries and wages.
- Hunters spend \$986 million annually.



Hunting is a key source of tax revenue.

- Hunters generate \$121 million in state and local taxes.
- Pennsylvania hunters pay more than \$136 million in federal taxes.

Hunters fund Pennsylvania’s conservation efforts.

- In 2016, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will distribute \$1.1 billion of Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson generated funds to the states.

- Pennsylvania’s share of these sportsmen and –women generated dollars is over \$33 million, with \$25 million going toward wildlife restoration.

Hunters are a major driver of Pennsylvania’s economy

- The ripple effect of hunting on Pennsylvania’s economy is \$1.6 billion annually.

As you can clearly see, Pennsylvania’s hunters are a major force in our economy – and they can do more. Simply giving hunters the option of having one additional day of hunting could help grow our economy by generating more wages and supporting more jobs.

Economic studies have shown that allowing hunting on Sundays would add about 8,200 new jobs; it could generate \$245 million in new and increased salaries and wages; it could have a total impact of \$764 million beyond what we are currently experiencing.

Businesses all across Pennsylvania would feel the positive impact that Sunday hunting would bring to our economy. Their bottom lines would increase. Their profits would increase. Their output would increase. They’d have more capital to invest and grow their businesses while providing good jobs to thousands of Pennsylvanians.

Calling ourselves Hunting Works For Pennsylvania is no accident. As you can see by these numbers, hunting does work for Pennsylvania. It works in our urban areas, our rural areas and every corner of Pennsylvania.

We urge the members of the Senate Game and Fisheries committee to take the steps necessary to make hunting work even harder for Pennsylvania and we ask that the members of the committee support SB 1070.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Nyce

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Hunting Works For Pennsylvania
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Statistics from:

2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)

America's Hunting Heritage: Fueling the American Economy (The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation)

Hunting in America: An Economic Force for Conservation (Southwick Associates. Produced for the National Shooting Sports Foundation in partnership with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies)

The Economic Impact of Sunday Hunting (John Dunham and Associates. Produced for the National Shooting Sports Foundation)

Service Distributes \$1.1 Billion to State Wildlife Agencies to Support Conservation, Outdoor Recreation, and Job Creation (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)