



March 10, 2020

The Honorable Brad Little  
Governor of Idaho  
Idaho State Capitol  
700 W. Jefferson St.  
Boise, Idaho 83702

RE: CSF support of HB 396

Dear Governor Little,

It is my pleasure to write today on behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) and respectfully request that you sign House Bill 396, legislation that will expand recreational shooting opportunity for Idaho's sportsmen and women.

With over three decades in the policy arena, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) works with different levels of government to advance and protect our outdoor sporting heritage and traditions. Rooted in the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, the largest, most active bipartisan caucus on Capitol Hill with nearly 250 Members of Congress, CSF has extended this legislative network from Washington, DC to states across the country, establishing the bipartisan National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC) and the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC). Presently, NASC is comprised of 49 state legislative caucuses with over 2,500 legislators (including the Idaho Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus), while the GSC includes more than half the governors from throughout the country. Together, CSF and this collective force of bipartisan elected officials work to protect and advance hunting, angling, recreational shooting and trapping for the nearly 40 million sportsmen and women who spend over \$90 billion annually on outdoor pursuits.

President Trump recently signed into law the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Act, providing state fish and wildlife agencies with added flexibility to allocate funds for range construction or improvement over time with the goal of giving them the resources needed to provide the public with more opportunities to embrace hunting and shooting sports. Such federal designation is especially important as shooting ranges have come under increased scrutiny as population growth and suburban sprawl expand closer to preexisting ranges, causing conflict with uneducated members of the public. Such conflicts often result in arbitrary sanctions and lawsuits, ultimately leading to range closures and reduced access for members of the hunting and shooting sports community.

CSF supports HB 396 in its aim to expand the ability of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission to develop, operate, and maintain the lands, waters or conservation easements for public shooting ranges and enter into agreements with outside entities in locating or relocating shooting ranges. Such ability

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would not only provide increased access to places where the public may engage in target shooting, training, and competition, but also benefit conservation throughout the state by increasing the monetary contributions of the shooting sports public through the American System of Conservation Funding. In short, this legislation complements recent sportsmen's policy victories at the federal level and HB 396, once signed into law, will only enhance efforts to take advantage of the new resources and flexibility provided by the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act.

CSF supports HB 396 and commends its sponsors effort to better serve the hunting and shooting sports community of Idaho. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to comment on this important issue and we respectfully request that you to sign HB 396 into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellary Tucker Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ellary TuckerWilliams  
Inter-Mountain Western States Coordinator

cc: Bobbi-Jo Meuleman, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs  
Sam Eaton, Director of Policy, Assistant Legal Counsel

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