



HR0758

LRB097 16734 KXB 61909 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, More than a century ago, hunters, anglers, and
3 trappers were among the first conservationists who realized
4 America's natural resources were in peril and could not sustain
5 unregulated harvest and habitat destruction; and

6 WHEREAS, Hunters, anglers, and trappers took it upon
7 themselves to support laws that stopped excessive harvest of
8 fish and wildlife, established game and fish agencies to
9 protect fish, wildlife, and their habitat, and supported
10 special fishing and hunting license fees to help fund the new
11 agencies' efforts to provide for healthy natural resources for
12 future generations; and

13 WHEREAS, Upon realizing that license fees alone were
14 insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife
15 populations, hunters, anglers, and trappers supported excise
16 taxes on firearms, ammunition, hunting equipment, and fishing
17 equipment to raise additional funds to support restoration and
18 enhancement efforts of the State agencies; and

19 WHEREAS, These efforts became known as the Wildlife and
20 Sport Fish Restoration Program that began 75 years ago with the
21 passage of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act in 1937,
22 and again with the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act in

1 1950, and further expanded with the Wallop-Breaux amendment to
2 the Sport Fish Restoration Act in 1984; and

3 WHEREAS, The combined contribution of the Wildlife and
4 Sport Fish Restoration Programs to State fish and wildlife
5 agencies exceeds \$13 billion since 1939 (the first year money
6 was distributed to the states), more than any other single
7 conservation effort in American history; and

8 WHEREAS, This cooperative partnership between hunters,
9 anglers, trappers, and State natural resource agencies has
10 resulted in the most successful model of fish and wildlife
11 management in the world, restoring populations from coast to
12 coast, Alaska, and Hawaii; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we recognize America's hunters, anglers, and trappers for their
16 leading role in restoring healthy populations of fish,
17 wildlife, and other natural resources, both game and non-game,
18 to the abundance we see today; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 provided to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, all
21 members of the Illinois Congressional delegation, and Illinois
22 Governor Pat Quinn.