



To: Members of the Iowa Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus

Re: HF 2370: Shotguns and Ammunition for Hunting Turkey

Position: Support

Date: February 15, 2021

Honorable Members of the Iowa Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus:

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), I write to express our support for House File 2370 (HF 2370), a bill that would allow the Iowa Natural Resource Commission to authorize the use of .410-bore and larger shotguns using tungsten shot during turkey hunting seasons. While historically considered too small for turkey hunting, advancements in ammunition technology have greatly improved the effectiveness of shotguns with chamberings as small as .410-bore for turkey hunting, thereby providing a low-recoil option that may open the door for younger or otherwise recoil sensitive sportsmen and women.

Since 1989, CSF has maintained a singleness of purpose that has guided the organization to become the most respected and trusted sportsmen's organization in the political arena. CSF's mission is to work with Congress, governors, and state legislatures to protect and advance hunting, angling, recreational shooting, and trapping. The unique and collective force of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus, and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, working closely with CSF, and with the support of major hunting, recreational fishing and shooting, and trapping organizations, serves as an unprecedented network of pro-sportsmen elected officials that advance the interests of America's hunters and anglers.

The decision to allow turkey hunters to utilize .410-bore and larger shotguns with tungsten shot (also known as tungsten super shot or TSS) opens the door for hunters to take advantage of the significant advances in shotshell technology. The properties of TSS shotshells, which can be loaded with shot as small as size #9, allows hunters to use shotguns chambered as small as .410-bore to harvest turkeys ethically and effectively. This, in turn, creates additional opportunities for young and smaller-framed hunters to use lighter firearms with significantly less recoil. Given the national decline in hunter participation observed during the past 30 years, coupled with the resurgence of interest during the Covid-19 pandemic, opportunities to make hunting more accessible are critical to the success of hunter recruitment, retention, and reactivation (R3) efforts designed to reverse this trend.

The Sportsmen's Voice in the Nation's Capitols

Again, CSF fully supports the opportunities that HF 2370 seek to provide to the sportsmen and women of Iowa, particularly to the Hawkeye State's next generation of turkey hunters. Passage of this bill will allow all hunters to take full advantage of improving technology, such as the development of TSS, while opening the door to young and smaller-framed hunters who have historically been limited to firearms that are too heavy or generate too much recoil for enjoyable use. Thank you again for your time and consideration on these matters. If you have questions or would like any additional information, please feel free to contact me using the information below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Keene", written in a cursive style.

Kent Keene
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