

ammunition for this upcoming deer season. Enacting a provision that prevents the need for companies outside the Commonwealth to be licensed within Massachusetts, and thus allowing these retailers to “sell and deliver inert ammunition components to persons properly licensed to possess or purchase ammunition” will ensure that sportsmen and women are able to continue enjoying their time-honored traditions. Additionally, preventing hurdles for ammunition retailers to clear will likely result in an increase in conservation funding.

In 2020 alone, Massachusetts’ sportsmen and women generated over \$17 million for conservation through revenue derived from license sales and excise taxes on sporting-related goods in the unique “user pays - public benefits” structure known as the American System of Conservation Funding (ASCF). The funds collected through this program are the lifeblood of state fish and wildlife agencies (including the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife) – the primary managers of our nation’s fish and wildlife resources. These critical conservation dollars fund a variety of efforts including: enhanced fish and wildlife habitat and populations, recreational access to public and private lands, shooting ranges and boat access facilities, wetlands protection and its associated water filtration and flood retention functions, and improved soil and water conservation – all which benefit the public at large, not just sportsmen and women. Ammunition sales play a critical role in the ASCF and preventing any barriers to its sale will afford sportsmen and women with the unabridged ability to continue pursuing their passions.

For these reasons, I urge the members of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security to support SB 1584 and HB 2444. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this discussion. Should you require additional information on this matter please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,



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