The Pennsylvania Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus was formed in 1995, and was one of the original 21 caucuses to unite under the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, joining in December of 2004. Currently, the Pennsylvania Caucus is one of the largest caucuses in the northeast region, with 40 active members. The Caucus is co-chaired by Senators Dan Laughlin and Jim Brewster; and, Representatives Ryan Warner and Eddie Day Pashinski. Historically, the Caucus hosts an annual cigar reception, which provides an ideal opportunity to discuss current and upcoming sportsmen's policies. The Caucus has a long tenure of spearheading the fight to protect and advance hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and trapping, as evidenced by its role in authorizing three Sunday hunting opportunities during the 2020 hunting season and its ongoing support for legalizing online raffles as a method of raising revenue for conservation organizations.

Policy Highlights

- Efforts coordinated by Caucus Co-Chairs and members led to the passage and enactment of S. 147 in 2019, which authorized three days of Sunday hunting in the Keystone State - a monumental breakthrough in a state with Sunday hunting restrictions.
- In 2020, Caucus-driven legislation was signed into law, authorizing the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission with the regulatory power to set license, permit, and tag fees.
- Caucus-supported legislation - HB 1188 - resulted in the Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners' approval of regulations to allow handheld and firearms-mounted thermal and night-vision optics for furbearer hunting.

Economic Impact and Conservation Funding

- Sportsmen and women spent $1.5 billion on hunting and fishing in Pennsylvania in 2011 -- that is more than the combined receipts for corn and cattle, the state's #2 and #3 agricultural commodities that year ($1.5 billion vs. $1.23 billion).
- Hunters and anglers support roughly the same number of jobs in Pennsylvania as Pennsylvania State University, the third largest employer in the state (24,797 vs. 25,000).

NICK LEWIS - COORDINATOR, MID-ATLANTIC STATES
NLEWIS@CONGRESSIONALSPORTSMEN.ORG
202-568-1587