



To: Honorable Members of the Senate State Government Committee
Re: Senate Joint Resolution 6 – Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa by repealing the natural resources and outdoor recreation trust fund.
Position: Oppose
Date: March 5, 2025

Honorable Members of the Senate State Government Committee,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), I respectfully ask that you oppose Senate Joint Resolution 6 (SJR 6), an amendment to the State Constitution that would repeal Section 10 Article VII, the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. Passed in 2010 and supported by over 60% of the voters in Iowa, the Natural Resource and Outdoor Trust Fund, when funded, would significantly improve conservation efforts in the Hawkeye State.

Founded in 1989, CSF is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

In 2010, 62.6% of Iowa voters supported the constitutional amendment to establish the Natural Resource and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. In Iowa, through the sales of hunting and fishing licenses along with revenue generated from self-imposed manufacturer-level excise taxes on outdoor gear through the Pittman-Robertson Act and Dingell-Johnson Act with Wallop-Breaux Amendments, the American System of Conservation Funding (ASCF) serves as one of the primary sources of revenue for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and its conservation efforts. Maintaining, and funding, the constitutionally established Natural Resource and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund will provide additional funding to further improve those conservation efforts. With the cost of natural resource management increasing yearly, the Natural Resource and Outdoor Trust Fund, when properly funded, would provide additional revenue to pay for the DNR's growing operational costs and continue its conservation efforts for the benefit of all Iowans.

CSF therefore respectfully asks the members of the Senate State Government Committee to oppose SJR 6, which would repeal the Natural Resource and Outdoor Recreation Fund. SJR 6 would eliminate an avenue for conservation efforts and funding that was already constitutionally mandated by Iowans at the ballot box. Should you require additional information on this, or other sportsmen-related topics, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

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Your Inside Connection to Outdoor Legislation