



March 18, 2025

Representative Shaw Blackmon  
Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee  
133 State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

**Re: Senate Bill 47 – Firearms, Ammunition, Gun Safes, and Related Accessories 11-Day Sales Tax Exemption**

**Position: Support**

Dear Chairman Blackmon and Honorable Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), I write to respectfully ask for your support of SB 47, which would create an 11-day sales tax exemption to occur annually beginning the second Friday of October, during which firearms, ammunition, gun safes, and related accessories including, but not limited to, stocks, barrels, scopes, and magazines, are exempt from state sales and use tax.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (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.

Outdoor sporting goods tax holidays offer sportsmen and women an opportunity to purchase necessary equipment tax free while at the same time benefiting conservation programs through increasing sales of firearms, ammunition, and other items which would continue to be subject to federal excise taxes. The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act) set up a system in which excise taxes collected from sporting goods purchases are funneled back into conservation. These excise taxes are used to fund a wide variety of activities including wildlife research, private and public habitat management, hunter education, shooting range development, land acquisition and easements, and much more. In 2023 alone, the Pittman-Robertson Act

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generated over \$37 million for conservation efforts in Georgia.<sup>1</sup> With the passage of SB 47, that number would likely improve, as it would greatly encourage Georgians to get out and purchase sporting goods equipment in advance of the fall hunting seasons. This legislation would also allow Georgia to join other Southern states such as Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina that have established 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sales Tax Holidays.

In closing, providing sportsmen and women the opportunity to purchase firearms, ammunition, and other sporting goods during an 11-day period that coincides with hunting season without being subject to sales tax will ease the financial burden for sportsmen and women, will likely generate additional funding for conservation, and will spur economic growth in the outdoor sporting goods and firearm industries. Therefore, we respectfully ask that you bring this important piece of legislation up for discussion, and we encourage your support.

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,



Conner Barker  
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Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation  
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<sup>1</sup> chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgglefindmkaj/https://s3.amazonaws.com/cdn.congressionalsportsmen.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/05162023/Georgia-ASCF-Fact-Sheet.pdf

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