



**To: Hon. Joanna McClinton
Speaker of the House
139 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

**Hon. Matthew Bradford
Majority Leader, House of Representatives
110 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

**Hon. Jesse Topper
Minority Leader, House of Representatives
423 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

Re: House Bill 1811– Pennsylvania Game Commission Purchasing Cap Removal

Position: Support

Date: 10/16/2025

Honorable Speaker McClinton, Majority Leader Bradford, and Minority Leader Topper,

My name is Kaleigh Leager, and I am the Assistant Manager, Mid-Atlantic States for the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation (CSF). I respectfully urge an affirmative vote on House Bill 1811 (HB 1811). HB 1811 seeks to remove the \$400 per acre limit on the acquisition of State Game Lands in portions of the Commonwealth. Thus, allowing the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) to pay what is considered fair and reasonable value for land to be used as public hunting grounds. Any additional public lands gained in these counties would provide increased opportunities to many of Pennsylvania’s sportsmen and women who reside near these higher-populated areas while protecting the remaining open spaces that are vital for Pennsylvania’s wildlife and conservation.

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

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conservation legacy.

A lack of access is regularly cited as the number one reason that lapsed hunters give when asked why they decided to stop hunting. The passage of HB 1811 would likely contribute to the recruitment, retention, and reactivation of sportsmen and women in the Commonwealth by allowing the PGC to purchase lands in more populated areas (first through fifth counties) where land valuations can surpass the PGC's current purchasing cap of \$400/acre. Providing more access for sportsmen and women in these more urban areas will likely increase participation, and license sales by extension, and will also have a positive impact on the state's economy while strengthening the Keystone State's outdoor heritage.

Sportsmen and women play an integral and unique role in providing the majority of state-level conservation funding in the United States through the [American System of Conservation Funding](#). Since the inception of this System, state fish and wildlife agencies have received around \$85.3B in unadjusted costs and around \$142.5B when adjusted for inflation (2024) from sportsmen and women nationwide.¹

As you are aware, 100% of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's (PGC) budget is comprised of sportsmen and women generated dollars. In 2025 alone, the sale of hunting licenses contributed \$42M in Pennsylvania, which in turn provided an additional \$33M through the Pittman-Robertson Act, totaling around \$75.1M in conservation dollars for the state. Legislation such as HB 1811 will assist in the recruitment, retention, and reactivation sportsmen and women through their ability to access public lands near their domicile, ultimately stabilizing or increasing critical conservation dollars that the PGC relies on to successfully carry out their mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this critical issue. For the reasons outlined above, I respectfully request that HB 1811 receive an affirmative vote.

Sincerely,



Kaleigh E. Leager
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¹ [U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Office of Conservation Investment](#)