

CONGRESSIONAL  
**SPORTSMEN'S**  
FOUNDATION

**To:**            **The Honorable Matt Meyer**  
Governor of Delaware  
150 Martin Luther King Blvd South  
Dover, DE 19901

**Re:**            **House Bill 278 – Sportsmen’s Package**

**Position:**    **Support**

**Date:**         **5/28/2026**

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Dear Governor Meyer,

My name is Kaleigh Leager and I am the Manager, Mid-Atlantic States for the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation (CSF). First and foremost, I want to take the time to thank you for your support of Delaware’s sportsmen and women, in addition to your membership on the Governor’s Sportsmen’s Caucus. I respectfully urge your signature of enactment on House Bill 278 (HB 278). This passage of this legislation makes multiple changes to Title 7 of the Delaware Code that benefits the sportsmen and women of the First State and the conservation efforts of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC).

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 capitals advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

The enactment of HB 278 will increase hunting opportunities and clarifies that Sunday hunting is permitted for all game animals and game birds that DNREC’s Division of Fish and Wildlife has established hunting seasons for. Additionally, this bill continues to allow private landowners and public agencies to exercise discretion when and where Sunday hunting is permitted without being overly burdensome. Further, this Act amends and simplifies the caliber of handgun ammunition permitted for deer hunting and also updates the use of other hunting implements consistent with new and improved technology.

When it comes to the removal of Sunday hunting prohibitions, Delaware has had a positive track record. For example, the [Delaware Legislative Sportsmen’s Caucus](#) has spearheaded the passage of several Sunday hunting prohibition repeal bills. In 2016, HB 289 permitted deer hunting on both private and public lands (subject to approval of the appropriate regulatory body) on five Sundays during firearms seasons. In 2018, Delaware took things further with the passage of SB 198 which

allowed hunting every Sunday throughout the state’s archery and deer season. Most recently, in 2024, the Delaware General Assembly enthusiastically and unanimously passed House Bill 271, which removed game birds (waterfowl, rails, wild turkeys, pheasants, quail, chukar, and doves, amongst others) from the remaining Sunday prohibitions in Delaware.

Additionally, expanding hunting opportunities will likely increase license sales, which in turn, will increase conservation funding through the [American System of Conservation Funding](#), which is a “user pays – public benefits” system. Such an increase in funding will greatly benefit DNREC’s Division of Fish and Wildlife’s ability to carry out their vitally important mission of conserving and managing Delaware’s fish and wildlife resources.

In closing, the enactment of HB 278 will provide many benefits to sportsmen and women and contribute to an increase in conservation funding that is important to all residents of the First State. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to sign House Bill 278.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kaleigh E. Leager". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kaleigh E. Leager  
Manager, Mid-Atlantic States | Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation  
110 North Carolina Ave, SE | Washington, DC 20003  
[kleager@congressionalsportsmen.org](mailto:kleager@congressionalsportsmen.org) | 202-543-6850 X 20