
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 495 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY ALLOWAY, ARGALL, GREENLEAF, YUDICHAK, TEPLITZ,
BROWNE, GORDNER, BAKER, BOSCOLA AND BREWSTER,
NOVEMBER 16, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, NOVEMBER 16, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 25th anniversary of the "Hunters Sharing the
2 Harvest" program in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, "Hunters Sharing the Harvest" is celebrating its
4 25th anniversary with more than 1 million pounds of venison
5 donated to hungry families throughout Pennsylvania; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 1.8 million Pennsylvanians require food
7 assistance because they are classified as food insecure; and

8 WHEREAS, Since 1991, the Pennsylvania "Hunters Sharing the
9 Harvest" program, www.sharedeer.org, has effectively brought the
10 hunting public together to compassionately serve their local
11 communities and has been providing venison to regional food bank
12 systems to benefit needy residents throughout this Commonwealth;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The processed venison is redistributed to more than
15 4,000 local provider charities such as food pantries, missions,
16 homeless shelters, Salvation Army facilities and churches; and

17 WHEREAS, The overabundance of deer in certain regions of this

1 Commonwealth has impacted our agricultural community, forest
2 industry, natural biodiversity and overall quality of life and
3 safety for many residents; and

4 WHEREAS, Wildlife management groups offer multiple deer tags,
5 longer seasons and special hunting opportunities that result in
6 extra deer being donated by the sportsmen and women; and

7 WHEREAS, For 25 years this unique program has provided an
8 annual average of more than 85,000 pounds of this nutritious,
9 high-protein meat to residents needing food assistance through
10 local area food banks, and now is calling on all Pennsylvanians
11 to assist in this program; and

12 WHEREAS, Further assistance is needed to provide funds to
13 offset the processing costs for venison and further extend
14 delivery systems to more quickly and efficiently reach needy
15 recipients; and

16 WHEREAS, The General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Game
17 Commission, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of
18 Conservation and Natural Resources have supported these efforts
19 and now join with more than 62 corporate and organizational
20 program partners, including Pennsylvania chapters of Safari Club
21 International, Friends of National Rifle Association,
22 Pennsylvania Association of Regional Food Banks and Pennsylvania
23 Association of Meat Processors in encouraging hunters to share
24 their harvest; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the 25th anniversary of
26 the "Hunters Sharing the Harvest" program and commend its
27 dedication to providing meals for families in need across this
28 Commonwealth; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the residents of this
30 Commonwealth and especially individuals and groups that are most

1 concerned in supporting "Hunters Sharing the Harvest" in
2 Pennsylvania and extend its appreciation to the program's public
3 partners for joining in this challenge to distribute this
4 valuable component of our wildlife resources and fight hunger;
5 and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage the Department of
7 Agriculture and others to continue providing information via
8 Internet websites and other means about donating big game and
9 other lawfully taken wildlife through "Hunters Sharing the
10 Harvest" to food banks, county and local government,
11 municipalities, sportsman's clubs and meat processors throughout
12 this Commonwealth and other individuals, nonprofit agencies,
13 charitable organizations and businesses requesting this
14 information.