

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 563 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY GERGELY, KORTZ, MURPHY, HANNA, HARHAI, BAKER, BENNINGHOFF, BOBACK, BRENNAN, BROOKS, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER, CUTLER, DALEY, DENLINGER, DeWEESE, J. EVANS, EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FLECK, GABLER, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GILLEN, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GROVE, HAHN, HARHART, HARKINS, HENNESSEY, HESS, HORNAMAN, M. K. KELLER, KRIEGER, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MARSICO, METCALFE, MILLARD, MILLER, MIRABITO, MOUL, MULLERY, OBERLANDER, PASHINSKI, PYLE, QUINN, READSHAW, ROCK, SAINATO, SANTONI, SONNEY, STABACK, TALLMAN, VEREB, VULAKOVICH AND YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 7, 2012

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, FEBRUARY 7, 2012

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the National Shooting Sports  
2 Foundation.

3 WHEREAS, The development of hunting and shooting skills  
4 played an integral role in the founding of this Commonwealth as  
5 early settlers to Penn's Woods relied on these skills to ensure  
6 the survival of not only themselves, but of their families,  
7 friends and neighbors; and

8 WHEREAS, In the 19th and 20th centuries, as industrialization  
9 and urbanization changed the lifestyles of our citizens, as well  
10 as the landscape of the State, the popularity of hunting and  
11 sport shooting began to wane; and

12 WHEREAS, In the late 1950s, recognizing this decline  
13 throughout the nation, a group led by Warren Page, Shooting

1 Editor of *Field and Stream* magazine, began considering ideas to  
2 reinvigorate the hunting and sport shooting heritage; and

3 WHEREAS, This effort resulted in the gathering of industry  
4 leaders in New York City and culminated in the establishment of  
5 the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) in 1961 to focus  
6 on the promotion, protection and preservation of hunting and  
7 shooting sports; and

8 WHEREAS, NSSF has always been renowned for its development  
9 and dissemination of a wide range of hunting and firearm safety  
10 publications, and it is also instrumental in promoting the  
11 safety value of wearing orange hunting clothing, which  
12 transformed the hunting clothing industry and culminated with  
13 many states adopting mandatory orange hunting clothing  
14 requirements; and

15 WHEREAS, While NSSF continues to distribute safety  
16 publications to state agencies, manufacturers, retailers and  
17 hunter education and firearms safety programs, it has also  
18 expanded its efforts in the last several decades to include a  
19 host of new programs such as Step Outside and First Shots, which  
20 were designed to encourage hunting and sport shooting in the  
21 21st century; and

22 WHEREAS, NSSF has proven to be a leader in encouraging the  
23 next generation to enjoy hunting, and shooting sports and it has  
24 also championed firearm safety in our communities through  
25 leadership in programs, such as ChildSafe, which has distributed  
26 more than 35 million firearm safety kits since 2003; and

27 WHEREAS, This community firearm safety effort has also  
28 included a partnership with the Federal Government in the "Don't  
29 Lie for the Other Guy" program, which is a national campaign to  
30 prevent and discourage illegal "straw man" purchases of

1 firearms. This campaign is intended to drive home the message  
2 that anyone attempting an illegal firearm purchase faces a stiff  
3 Federal penalty; and

4 WHEREAS, Support for hunting and shooting sports is on the  
5 increase, with public opinion polls showing that more than 78%  
6 of Americans support hunting and shooting sports, and more than  
7 34.4 million people, or 15% of the United States adult  
8 population, participated in target shooting in 2009 according to  
9 an NSSF-commissioned study; and

10 WHEREAS, While NSSF began with a small group of individuals,  
11 it now consists of more than 6,000 members representing  
12 manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, gun clubs, shooting  
13 ranges, outdoor media and safety and conservation groups; and

14 WHEREAS, NSSF has played a vital role in the long struggle to  
15 preserve America's hunting and sport shooting heritage and  
16 continues to demonstrate unparalleled leadership in this effort;  
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
19 50th anniversary of the National Shooting Sports Foundation.