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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1061 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY MEHAFFIE, GILLESPIE, HILL-EVANS, FEE, HENNESSEY,  
KAUFFMAN, KULIK, SCHLEGEL CULVER, BOBACK, PEIFER, SONNEY,  
ROTHMAN, PICKETT, ZIMMERMAN, READSHAW, MURT, SAYLOR, MENTZER,  
PASHINSKI, MOUL, MILLARD, FREEMAN, BURNS, WEBSTER, T. DAVIS,  
OWLETT AND WILLIAMS, OCTOBER 19, 2020

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 19, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 125th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Game  
2 Commission.

3 WHEREAS, For the past 125 years, the Pennsylvania Game  
4 Commission has managed this Commonwealth's wildlife resources  
5 for all residents of this Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, Currently, with the help of more than 700 employees  
7 and thousands of volunteers, the Pennsylvania Game Commission  
8 continues to fulfill its duty to manage and conserve all wild  
9 birds and wild mammals and their habitats for all residents of  
10 this Commonwealth; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1895, Representative George Kunkle of Dauphin  
12 County introduced legislation to create a six-member board of  
13 commissioners that would employ a chief game protector and nine  
14 game protectors; and

15 WHEREAS, The commissioners would be appointed by the Governor  
16 and would only be compensated for travel expenses; and

1       WHEREAS, Game protectors would be named by the commissioners  
2 and would be given a salary and a stipend for expenses; and

3       WHEREAS, On June 25, 1895, Governor Daniel H. Hastings signed  
4 the legislation into law; and

5       WHEREAS, In 1913, all resident hunters in this Commonwealth  
6 were required to purchase a hunting license for \$1; and

7       WHEREAS, In 1913, there were an estimated 305,000 hunters in  
8 this Commonwealth; and

9       WHEREAS, Currently, there are nearly 1 million license  
10 holders annually, including residents and nonresidents of this  
11 Commonwealth; and

12       WHEREAS, In 1920, the first State game lands, SGL 25, were  
13 purchased, including 6,288 acres in Elk County for \$2.75 per  
14 acre; and

15       WHEREAS, Currently, the Pennsylvania Game Commission manages  
16 more than 1.5 million acres of State game lands; and

17       WHEREAS, In 1936, the first student game protector class  
18 enrolled at the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Ross Leffler  
19 School of Conservation, America's first game protector or warden  
20 school, had 27 individuals who graduated from that inaugural  
21 class; and

22       WHEREAS, Currently, 701 game wardens have graduated from the  
23 Ross Leffler School of Conservation; and

24       WHEREAS, As the trustee of this Commonwealth's wildlife, the  
25 Pennsylvania Game Commission is responsible for managing all 480  
26 species of wild birds and wild mammals and their habitats for  
27 current and future generations on behalf of the residents of  
28 this Commonwealth; and

29       WHEREAS, Wildlife has always been an important part of this  
30 Commonwealth's cultural heritage; and

1       WHEREAS, Each day, this Commonwealth's wildlife touches the  
2 lives of countless residents of this Commonwealth and most of  
3 the residents of this Commonwealth consider wildlife to be a  
4 State treasure; therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
6 125th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.