



**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION
11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030-7400**

John Hohenwarter
State Liaison

Memo

Date: June 9, 2011
To: Honorable Members of the House Game & Fisheries Committee
From: John Hohenwarter
RE: Informational Hearing on Sunday Hunting

On behalf of NRA members who live in the Keystone State and our millions of members throughout the rest of the country, I respectfully request your support for the establishment of Sunday hunting to be implemented by Pennsylvania Game Commission.

The great majority of hunters take to the field on weekends and a Sunday hunting ban effectively erases half of the already limited hunting opportunity. In addition, many hunters cannot introduce their children or friends to hunting because Saturday is their only opportunity, and they are competing with the numerous organized sports and other activities. Too many hunters stop hunting because of the lack of opportunity, both in time and accessible land. The addition of an extra day in the field increases the available time to enjoy our hunting heritage and will help to invigorate hunter recruitment and retention efforts.

Sunday hunting would also bring a much-needed economic boost to rural areas. Every day that hunters are in the field, they spend money on gasoline, food, lodging and dozens of other incidentals that go along with a day's hunt. The ripple effect of this spending can have a major impact on a rural town or county. Comprehensive research from the National Shooting Sports Foundation shows that Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania would generate approximately \$764 million annually and create more than 8,000 jobs.

Finally, we believe it is imperative to the future of hunting to provide as many hunting opportunities as possible in accordance with limits set by scientifically based game management techniques. This legislation will help advance and preserve the Keystone State's rich hunting traditions, while additionally enhancing biodiversity and wildlife populations.

The NRA looks forward to working with the legislature in this endeavor.