

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 296 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY GODSHALL, CALTAGIRONE, CREIGHTON, EVERETT, GROVE,
HESS, METCALFE, MULLERY AND READSHAW, JANUARY 27, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, JANUARY 27, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, further providing for recreational hunting on
3 commission-owned lands.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 722 of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subsection to read:
8 § 722. Use of property.

9 * * *

10 (d) Recreational hunting.--

11 (1) Subject to valid existing rights, commission-owned
12 lands shall be open to access and use for recreational
13 hunting except as limited by the commission for reasons of
14 public safety, fish or wildlife management, or homeland
15 security or as otherwise limited by law.

16 (2) The commission shall exercise its authority,
17 consistent with paragraph (1), in a manner to support,
18 promote and enhance recreational hunting opportunities, to

1 the extent authorized by State law.

2 (3) Commission land management decisions and actions may
3 not, to the greatest practical extent, result in any net loss
4 of habitat available for hunting opportunities on commission-
5 owned lands that exists on the effective date of this
6 subsection.

7 (4) By October 1 of each year, the executive director of
8 the commission shall submit to the General Assembly a written
9 report describing:

10 (i) the acreage owned by the commission that has
11 been closed during the previous year to recreational
12 hunting and the reasons for the closures; and

13 (ii) the acreage owned by the commission that, in
14 order to comply with paragraph (3), was opened to
15 recreational hunting to compensate for the acreage closed
16 under subparagraph (i).

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.