



**WHEREAS**, hunting and angling are integral components of the cultural fabric of communities throughout Illinois and in recent years, have offered a growing number of participants an opportunity to connect with nature on a personal level while simultaneously providing food security, a sense of self-sufficiency, and both mental and physical health benefits; and,

**WHEREAS**, Illinois' sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat, and through their license fees helped fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and,

**WHEREAS**, to this day, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is funded, in part, by sportsmen and women, through this American System of Conservation Funding - a "user pays - public benefits" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model for funding fish and wildlife management in the world; and,

**WHEREAS**, last year alone, Illinois' sportsmen and women generated \$66,958,921 through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, with 860,090 hunters and anglers supporting the state's economy through their spending and contributing to the \$24.3 billion spent on outdoor activities in Illinois last year; and,

**WHEREAS**, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society;

**THEREFORE**, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2025, as **National Hunting and Fishing Day** in Illinois and recognize the many and varied social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of our time-honored traditions of hunting and angling.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*



*Alexi Giannouli*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*  
*this* SEVENTEENTH *day of* SEPTEMBER, *in*  
*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*  
TWENTY-FIVE, *and of the State of Illinois,*  
*two hundred and* SIXTH.

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR