



WHEREAS, Ohio has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and

WHEREAS, hunting and angling continue to be integral components of communities throughout the state, offer an opportunity to connect with nature on a personal level, and provide food security, a sense of self-sufficiency, and mental and physical health benefits; and

WHEREAS, Ohio sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Ohio 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, sportsmen and women supported self-imposed excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, fishing tackle, and motorboat fuel to raise additional conservation funds beyond license fees; and

WHEREAS, to this day, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife is funded primarily by sportsmen and women that is widely recognized as the most successful model of fish and wildlife management in the world; and; and

WHEREAS, last year alone, Ohio's sportsmen and women generated more than \$70 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, 1.2 million hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing \$17.1 billion spent on outdoor activities in Ohio last year; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, on the national level sportsmen and women spent more than \$38 billion on hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting, which does not include spending on items such as trips and travel, or license fees that were necessary for their participation. This spending helped fuel the outdoor economy, which comprised 1.8% of Ohio's GDP that same 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, *Mike DeWine and Jim Tressel*, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

on this 27th day of September 2025;

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jim Tressel
Lieutenant Governor