



**Attn:** Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
**Re:** House Bill 1233  
**Date:** March 1, 2023  
**Position:** Support

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Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,

I write you today on behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation in support of House Bill 1233, which would expand the hunting opportunities for youth hunters by removing the current limitation that they may only fill a white-tailed antlerless deer permit during the youth hunting season. This would expand opportunities for hunters. I respectfully request that the members of this Committee support the passage of HB 1233.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

This bill would serve to expand opportunities for youth hunters in North Dakota by allowing those hunters to fill a white-tailed antlerless deer permit outside of the youth hunting season. Allowing youth hunters to participate in the regular white-tailed deer hunting season would bolster crucial hunter recruitment efforts, which in turn would create more North Dakotan hunters contributing to the American System of Conservation Funding, and thereby increase the conservation funds generated by sportsmen and women in the state. With this increased funding, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department would be better equipped to protect the state's storied fish and wildlife populations for future generations.

I respectfully request that the members of this Committee support the passage of HB 1233. I thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and welcome any questions.

Sincerely,

**Robert Matthews**  
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Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation  
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# AMERICAN SYSTEM OF CONSERVATION FUNDING



## NORTH DAKOTA

	Hunting licenses	Fishing licenses	Pittman-Robertson	Dingell-Johnson	TOTAL
2021 Funding	\$10.77 M	\$4.02 M	\$9.60 M	\$4.83 M	\$29.24 M
2021 National Ranking	33rd	46th	38th	38th	39th
Historical Funding Total	\$283.3 M	\$73.48 M	\$192.0 M	\$115.7 M	\$664.5 M
Historical Funding U.S. Rank	39th	47th	38th	39th	43rd

**19%** Fishing

**13%** Hunting

Percent of North Dakota's residents who purchased a hunting or fishing license in 2021

**2021 PAID LICENSE HOLDERS**

**343,530**

**2021 TOTAL LICENSE PERMITS/TAGS**

**715,734**

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN'S ROLE IN CONSERVATION FUNDING VISIT [CONGRESSIONALSPORTSMEN.ORG](http://CONGRESSIONALSPORTSMEN.ORG)