

October 5, 2016

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Energy and Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Energy and Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rob Bishop
Chairman
Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Grijalva
Ranking Member
Natural Resources Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Chairmen Murkowski, Upton and Bishop, and Ranking Members Cantwell, Pallone and Grijalva,

On behalf of our organizations, which represent millions of hunters, anglers and other conservationists, we are writing to express to you and your colleagues on the energy conference committee our strong support for the inclusion of the *Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015* (S.405) and other sportsmen-conservationist provisions that are contained in the House-passed *SHARE Act* (H.2406) in the final conferenced comprehensive energy legislation.

This community has previously expressed its strong support for the *Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act*. Introduced by Senators Murkowski and Heinrich of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, and currently comprising 21 bipartisan cosponsors, S.405 advances and revises a variety of existing programs to expand access to, and opportunities for, hunting, angling, and recreational shooting, and promotes wildlife and habitat conservation.

Likewise, this community has previously expressed its strong support for the *SHARE Act*, introduced by Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC) leaders Congressmen Rob Wittman, Tim Walz, Jeff Duncan, and Gene Green, and which includes 33 additional bipartisan cosponsors. H.R. 2406 has 15 important provisions, including: the Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage Opportunities Act; the Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act; Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act; the Farmer and Hunter Protection Act; the permanent creation of the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council Advisory Committee; and the Preserving Public Access to Public Water Act, among others.

Past Congresses have considered similar legislation which unfortunately fell victim to procedural gridlock. Inclusion of the provisions in Senate and House bills (S.405 and H.2406) in the final conferenced energy bill, will help ensure the interests of millions of hunters, anglers, and recreational shooters are protected and advanced now and in the future.

Sincerely,

American Sportfishing Association
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Boone and Crockett Club
Camp Fire Club of America
Catch-A-Dream Foundation
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports
Dallas Safari Club
Delta Waterfowl Foundation
Ducks Unlimited
Houston Safari Club
Izaak Walton League of America
Masters of Foxhounds Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Wild Turkey Federation
National Wildlife Federation
North American Grouse Partnership
Orion – the hunters institute
Pheasants Forever
Quail Forever
Quality Deer Management Association
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Ruffed Grouse Society
Safari Club International
Shimano American Corporation
Sportsmen's Alliance
Texas Wildlife Association
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Tread Lightly!
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Mississippi