



1 habitats, abundant wildlife and an increased gratitude for the  
2 resources that the state's ecosystems can provide; and

3 WHEREAS, Oklahoma's hunters generate nearly \$10 million in  
4 license revenue while sportsmen contribute an additional \$17 million  
5 in excise taxes through the Pittman-Robertson Act to help fund the  
6 conservation of Oklahoma's wildlife resources through the American  
7 System of Conservation Funding while significantly contributing to  
8 Oklahoma's economy; and

9 WHEREAS, the challenges associated with the 2020 coronavirus  
10 pandemic shed new light on the importance of outdoor recreation  
11 opportunities like hunting for mental and physical health, self-  
12 reliance and the overall quality of life for all Oklahomans; and

13 WHEREAS, anyone under the age of 30 who is interested in  
14 participating in Oklahoma's rich hunting heritage is required to  
15 either purchase an apprentice-designated hunting license or  
16 participate in and complete a hunter education curriculum that is  
17 recognized and approved by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife  
18 Conservation; and

19 WHEREAS, the Hunter Education curriculum recognized and approved  
20 by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation covers a variety  
21 of topics including firearms safety, wildlife conservation and  
22 management and hunter responsibilities that are designed to increase  
23 hunter safety and educate hunters on the conservation ethic that is  
24 central to the activity; and

1       WHEREAS, Oklahoma statute already permits school districts  
2 throughout Oklahoma to incorporate hunter education into middle  
3 school or high school curriculum utilizing free educator training  
4 and resources made available by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife  
5 Conservation.

6       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION  
7 OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
8 CONCURRING THEREIN:

9       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature encourages Oklahoma's public  
10 school districts to incorporate hunter education, with a dedicated  
11 section focused on firearm safety, into the middle school or high  
12 school curriculum.

13       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature encourages students who do not  
14 have access to hunter education in school, or any adult interested  
15 in obtaining a hunter education certification, to utilize the online  
16 hunter education program approved and administered by the Oklahoma  
17 Department of Wildlife Conservation.

18       THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma  
19 Department of Wildlife Conservation.

20  
21 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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