

Union Calendar No. 249

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2799

[Report No. 113-336, Part I]

To establish the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council Advisory Committee to advise the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, hunting, recreational shooting, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2013

Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. WALZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

JANUARY 29, 2014

Additional sponsors: Mr. HANNA, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. COBLE

JANUARY 29, 2014

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

JANUARY 29, 2014

The Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 23, 2013]

A BILL

To establish the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council Advisory Committee to advise the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, hunting, recreational shooting, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Sportsmen’s Heritage*
5 *And Recreational Enhancement Act” or the “SHARE Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. WILDLIFE AND HUNTING HERITAGE CONSERVATION**

7 **COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

8 *The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C.*
9 *661 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

10 **“SEC. 10. WILDLIFE AND HUNTING HERITAGE CONSERVA-**

11 **TION COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

12 *“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established the*
13 *Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council Advi-*
14 *sory Committee (in this section referred to as the ‘Advisory*
15 *Committee’) to advise the Secretaries of the Interior and*
16 *Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, hunting,*
17 *and recreational shooting.*

18 *“(b) DUTIES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The*
19 *Advisory Committee shall advise the Secretaries with regard*
20 *to—*

21 *“(1) implementation of Executive Order No.*
22 *13443: Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife*
23 *Conservation, which directs Federal agencies ‘to fa-*
24 *cilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting*

1 *opportunities and the management of game species*
2 *and their habitat’;*

3 “(2) *policies or programs to conserve and restore*
4 *wetlands, agricultural lands, grasslands, forest, and*
5 *rangeland habitats;*

6 “(3) *policies or programs to promote opportuni-*
7 *ties and access to hunting and shooting sports on*
8 *Federal lands;*

9 “(4) *policies or programs to recruit and retain*
10 *new hunters and shooters;*

11 “(5) *policies or programs that increase public*
12 *awareness of the importance of wildlife conservation*
13 *and the social and economic benefits of recreational*
14 *hunting and shooting; and*

15 “(6) *policies or programs that encourage coordi-*
16 *nation among the public, the hunting and shooting*
17 *sports community, wildlife conservation groups, and*
18 *States, tribes, and the Federal Government.*

19 “(c) *MEMBERSHIP.—*

20 “(1) *APPOINTMENT.—*

21 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Com-*
22 *mittee shall consist of no more than 16 discre-*
23 *tionary members and 7 ex officio members.*

24 “(B) *EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—The ex officio*
25 *members are—*

1 “(i) the Director of the United States
2 *Fish and Wildlife Service or a designated*
3 *representative of the Director;*

4 “(ii) the Director of the Bureau of
5 *Land Management or a designated rep-*
6 *resentative of the Director;*

7 “(iii) the Director of the National Park
8 *Service or a designated representative of the*
9 *Director;*

10 “(iv) the Chief of the Forest Service or
11 *a designated representative of the Chief;*

12 “(v) the Chief of the Natural Resources
13 *Conservation Service or a designated rep-*
14 *resentative of the Chief;*

15 “(vi) the Administrator of the Farm
16 *Service Agency or a designated representa-*
17 *tive of the Administrator; and*

18 “(vii) the Executive Director of the As-
19 *sociation of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.*

20 “(C) *DISCRETIONARY MEMBERS.*—*The dis-*
21 *cretionary members shall be appointed jointly by*
22 *the Secretaries from at least one of each of the*
23 *following:*

24 “(i) *State fish and wildlife agencies.*

25 “(ii) *Game bird hunting organizations.*

1 “(iii) *Wildlife conservation organiza-*
2 *tions.*

3 “(iv) *Big game hunting organizations.*

4 “(v) *The tourism, outfitter, or guiding*
5 *industry.*

6 “(vi) *The firearms or ammunition*
7 *manufacturing industry.*

8 “(vii) *The hunting or shooting equip-*
9 *ment retail industry.*

10 “(viii) *Tribal resource management or-*
11 *ganizations.*

12 “(ix) *The agriculture industry.*

13 “(x) *The ranching industry.*

14 “(xi) *Waterfowl hunting organizations.*

15 “(D) *ELIGIBILITY.—Prior to the appoint-*
16 *ment of the discretionary members, the Secre-*
17 *taries shall determine that all individuals nomi-*
18 *nated for appointment to the Advisory Com-*
19 *mittee, and the organization each individual*
20 *represents, actively support and promote sustain-*
21 *able-use hunting, wildlife conservation, and rec-*
22 *reational shooting.*

23 “(2) *TERMS.—*

24 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in*
25 *subparagraph (B), members of the Advisory*

1 *Committee shall be appointed for a term of 4*
2 *years. Members shall not be appointed for more*
3 *than 3 consecutive or nonconsecutive terms.*

4 “(B) *TERMS OF INITIAL APPOINTEES.—As*
5 *designated by the Secretary at the time of ap-*
6 *pointment, of the members first appointed—*

7 “(i) *6 members shall be appointed for*
8 *a term of 4 years;*

9 “(ii) *5 members shall be appointed for*
10 *a term of 3 years; and*

11 “(iii) *5 members shall be appointed for*
12 *a term of 2 years.*

13 “(3) *PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC ADVISORY STA-*
14 *TUS.—No individual may be appointed as a discre-*
15 *tionary member of the Advisory Committee while*
16 *-serving as an officer or employee of the Federal Gov-*
17 *ernment.*

18 “(4) *VACANCY AND REMOVAL.—*

19 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—Any vacancy on the*
20 *Advisory Committee shall be filled in the manner*
21 *in which the original appointment was made.*

22 “(B) *REMOVAL.—Advisory Committee mem-*
23 *bers shall serve at the discretion of the Secre-*
24 *taries and may be removed at any time for good*
25 *cause.*

1 “(5) *CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.*—*Each ap-*
2 *pointed member may continue to serve after the expi-*
3 *ration of the term of office to which such member was*
4 *appointed until a successor has been appointed.*

5 “(6) *CHAIRPERSON.*—*The Chairperson of the Ad-*
6 *visory Committee shall be appointed for a 3-year*
7 *term by the Secretaries, jointly, from among the mem-*
8 *bers of the Advisory Committee. An individual may*
9 *not be appointed as Chairperson for more than 2 con-*
10 *secutive or nonconsecutive terms.*

11 “(7) *PAY AND EXPENSES.*—*Members of the Advi-*
12 *sory Committee shall serve without pay for such serv-*
13 *ice, but each member of the Advisory Committee may*
14 *be reimbursed for travel and lodging incurred through*
15 *attending meetings of the Advisory Committee ap-*
16 *proved subgroup meetings in the same amounts and*
17 *under the same conditions as Federal employees (in*
18 *accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States*
19 *Code).*

20 “(8) *MEETINGS.*—

21 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Advisory Com-*
22 *mittee shall meet at the call of the Secretaries,*
23 *the chairperson, or a majority of the members,*
24 *but not less frequently than twice annually.*

1 “(B) *OPEN MEETINGS.*—*Each meeting of*
2 *the Advisory Committee shall be open to the pub-*
3 *lic.*

4 “(C) *PRIOR NOTICE OF MEETINGS.*—*Timely*
5 *notice of each meeting of the Advisory Committee*
6 *shall be published in the Federal Register and be*
7 *submitted to trade publications and publications*
8 *of general circulation.*

9 “(D) *SUBGROUPS.*—*The Advisory Com-*
10 *mittee may establish such workgroups or sub-*
11 *groups as it deems necessary for the purpose of*
12 *compiling information or conducting research.*
13 *However, such workgroups may not conduct*
14 *business without the direction of the Advisory*
15 *Committee and must report in full to the Advi-*
16 *sory Committee.*

17 “(9) *QUORUM.*—*Nine members of the Advisory*
18 *Committee shall constitute a quorum.*

19 “(d) *EXPENSES.*—*The expenses of the Advisory Com-*
20 *mittee that the Secretaries determine to be reasonable and*
21 *appropriate shall be paid by the Secretaries.*

22 “(e) *ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT, TECHNICAL SERV-*
23 *ICES, AND ADVICE.*—*A designated Federal Officer shall be*
24 *jointly appointed by the Secretaries to provide to the Advi-*
25 *sory Committee the administrative support, technical serv-*

1 ices, and advice that the Secretaries determine to be reason-
2 able and appropriate.

3 “(f) ANNUAL REPORT.—

4 “(1) REQUIRED.—Not later than September 30
5 of each year, the Advisory Committee shall submit a
6 report to the Secretaries, the Committee on Natural
7 Resources and the Committee on Agriculture of the
8 House of Representatives, and the Committee on En-
9 ergy and Natural Resources and the Committee on
10 Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate. If
11 circumstances arise in which the Advisory Committee
12 cannot meet the September 30 deadline in any year,
13 the Secretaries shall advise the Chairpersons of each
14 such Committee of the reasons for such delay and the
15 date on which the submission of the report is antici-
16 pated.

17 “(2) CONTENTS.—The report required by para-
18 graph (1) shall describe—

19 “(A) the activities of the Advisory Com-
20 mittee during the preceding year;

21 “(B) the reports and recommendations
22 made by the Advisory Committee to the Secre-
23 taries during the preceding year; and

24 “(C) an accounting of actions taken by the
25 Secretaries as a result of the recommendations.

1 “(g) *FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Ad-*
2 *visory Committee shall be exempt from the Federal Advisory*
3 *Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).*

4 “(h) *ABOLISHMENT OF THE EXISTING WILDLIFE AND*
5 *HUNTING HERITAGE CONSERVATION COUNCIL ADVISORY*
6 *COMMITTEE.—Effective on the date of the enactment of this*
7 *Act, the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Coun-*
8 *cil formed in furtherance of section 441 of the Revised Stat-*
9 *utes (43 U.S.C. 1457), the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956*
10 *(16 U.S.C. 742a), and other Acts applicable to specific bu-*
11 *reaus of the Department of the Interior is hereby abol-*
12 *ished.”.*

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