

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1613

To amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to modernize the funding of wildlife conservation, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 20, 2017

Mr. RISCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to modernize the funding of wildlife conservation, 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 “Modernizing the Pitt-
5 man-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow’s Needs Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The first section of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife
8 Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669) is amended by adding
9 at the end the following: “One of the purposes of this Act
10 is to extend financial and technical assistance to the

1 States for the promotion of hunting and recreational
2 shooting.”.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 Section 2 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restora-
5 tion Act (16 U.S.C. 669a) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through
7 (8) as paragraphs (4) through (10), respectively;
8 and

9 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(2) the term ‘hunter recruitment and rec-
12 reational shooter recruitment’ means any activity or
13 project to recruit or retain hunters and recreational
14 shooters, including by—

15 “(A) using social media, marketing, adver-
16 tising, surveying, television spots, print, and
17 media;

18 “(B) providing education, mentoring, and
19 field demonstrations;

20 “(C) enhancing access for hunting and rec-
21 reational shooting, including through range con-
22 struction;

23 “(D) providing education to the public
24 about the role of hunting and recreational
25 shooting in funding wildlife conservation; and

1 “(E) using any other means to ensure the
2 growth of hunting and recreational shooting, as
3 determined by the Secretary;

4 “(3) the term ‘fiscal year’ means a period of 12
5 consecutive months beginning on October 1 and end-
6 ing on the succeeding September 30, except that the
7 period for enumeration of paid hunting-license hold-
8 ers means the fiscal year or license year of the
9 State;”.

10 **SEC. 4. ALLOCATION AND APPORTIONMENT OF AVAILABLE**
11 **AMOUNTS.**

12 (a) APPORTIONMENT TO STATES.—Section 4(b) of
13 the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16
14 U.S.C. 669c(b)) is amended—

15 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “The Sec-
16 retary of the Interior” and inserting the following:

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;

18 (2) in the second sentence, by striking “Such
19 apportionments” and inserting the following:

20 “(2) ADJUSTMENTS.—The apportionments de-
21 scribed in paragraph (1)”;

22 (3) by striking the third sentence; and

23 (4) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
 2 graph (B), amounts apportioned under this
 3 subsection may be used for hunter recruitment
 4 and recreational shooter recruitment.

5 “(B) LIMITATION.—A State may only
 6 make an expenditure under subparagraph (A) if
 7 the amount of the expenditure during the fiscal
 8 year in which the expenditure is made plus the
 9 amount of the expenditures for hunter recruit-
 10 ment and recreational shooter recruitment
 11 made during the 4 fiscal years preceding that
 12 fiscal year is equal to or less than 25 percent
 13 of the total amount apportioned to the State
 14 under this subsection during that 5-fiscal-year
 15 period.”.

16 (b) APPORTIONMENT OF CERTAIN TAXES.—Section
 17 4(c) of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act
 18 (16 U.S.C. 669c(c)) is amended—

19 (1) in the first sentence—

20 (A) by striking “One-half” and inserting
 21 the following:

22 “(1) APPORTIONMENT OF CERTAIN TAXES.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
 24 graph (B), $\frac{1}{2}$ ”; and

1 (B) by striking “*Provided*, That each
2 State” and inserting the following:

3 “(B) CONDITION.—The apportionment
4 made under subparagraph (A) shall be subject
5 to the condition that each State”;

6 (2) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated), by
7 striking “States:” and inserting “States.”;

8 (3) in subparagraph (B) (as so designated), by
9 striking “For the purpose” and inserting the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(2) POPULATION DETERMINATION.—For the
12 purpose”; and

13 (4) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts apportioned
15 under this subsection may be used for hunter re-
16 cruitment and recreational shooter recruitment.”.

17 **SEC. 5. EXPENDITURES FOR MANAGEMENT OF WILDLIFE**
18 **AREAS AND RESOURCES.**

19 Section 8 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restora-
20 tion Act (16 U.S.C. 669g) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (a), in the third sentence, by
22 striking “and public relations”; and

23 (2) in subsection (b), in the first sentence, by
24 striking “, as a part of such program”.

1 **SEC. 6. FIREARM AND BOW HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFE-**
 2 **TY PROGRAM GRANTS.**

3 Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Pittman-Robertson Wild-
 4 life Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669h-1(a)(1)(A)) is
 5 amended—

6 (1) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end;

7 and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(v) the enhancement of hunter re-
 10 cruitment and recreational shooter recruit-
 11 ment; and”.

12 **SEC. 7. MULTISTATE CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

13 Section 11 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Res-
 14 toration Act (16 U.S.C. 669h-2) is amended—

15 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

16 (A) by striking “Not more than” and in-
 17 serting the following:

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not more than”; and

19 (B) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(B) AVAILABILITY FOR HUNTER AND
 21 RECREATIONAL SHOOTER GRANTS.—Not more
 22 than \$5,000,000 of the revenues covered into
 23 the fund from any tax imposed under section
 24 4161(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
 25 for a fiscal year shall be available to the Sec-
 26 retary exclusively for making hunter recruit-

1 ment and recreational shooter recruitment
2 grants that promote a national hunting and
3 shooting sport recruitment program, including
4 related communication and outreach activi-
5 ties.”;

6 (2) in subsection (b)(3), in the matter pre-
7 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Inter-
8 national”;

9 (3) in subsection (c)(2)(A)(i), by inserting “or
10 to recreational shooting activities” after “wildlife”;
11 and

12 (4) in subsection (d), by inserting “or to rec-
13 reational shooting activities” after “wildlife”.

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