



February 8, 2022

Members of the Iowa House Committee on Natural Resources:

Federal, Remington and HEVI-Shot Ammunition are domestic manufacturing companies that employ thousands of Americans across the country. Collectively we build the highest quality ammunition, including many options for turkey hunting. I am writing you today on behalf of these companies in support of House Study Bill 609.

The continued effort by our companies and others in the industry to recruit, retain and reactivate hunters is important to us and included in our mission statement. Youth and others headed afield in Iowa would benefit from being allowed to utilize sub-gauge shotgun options. Offering hunters, the ability to take advantage of advances in shotshell technology promotes two key priorities: the ethical harvest of turkeys, including reductions in wound loss, and second, opening the door to new and young hunters. These firearm choices offer smaller statured hunters with reduced recoil options and paired with products such as Tungsten Super Shot (TSS) or Bismuth, allow for a memorable, ethical harvest.

For the reasons listed above, our ammunition businesses support HSB 609 to allow the use of .410 bore and other sub-gauge shotguns for turkey hunting. We also urge the Committee to address the current shot size restrictions currently within the IA DNR regulations. The use of Tungsten and other high-density shot options are not only non-toxic selections, but the technology and performance of the high-density shot also offer a more ethical harvest when choosing to use sub-gauge firearms. We have provided suggested language to current regulations, here:

The only legal firearms for turkey hunting are: shotguns and muzzleloader shotguns ~~not smaller than 20-gauge~~ 10 gauge or smaller shooting shot size number 4 or smaller number 4 through 8 lead or nontoxic shot. Hunters may not have shot sizes other than number 4 through 8 on their person while hunting turkeys. Muzzleloading rifles may not be used to hunt turkeys.

Thank you for your consideration of HSB 609 and the inclusion of the shot size concerns outlined above. Hunting is experiencing a resurgence in activity, and corresponding increases in

the Pittman Robertson Wildlife Conservation Fund are advancing the state-based model of conservation in significant ways. We hope to continue this momentum and please consider us a partner in our shared interest of getting more people outside. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any questions.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Zinnel', with a long, horizontal, oval-shaped flourish extending to the right.

Jon Zinnel
Conservation & Youth Shooting Sports
Federal, Remington & HEVI-Shot Ammunition