

Comment Report

SF 2138

A bill for an act relating to shotguns that may be used to hunt turkey.(See SF 2334.)

Subcommittee Members: Cournoyer-CH, Boulton, Shipley

Date: 02/15/2022

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: Room 217 Conference Room

Name: Christopher Lee

Comment: The National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. (NSSF) is the trade association for the firearm industry. NSSF represents over 9,000 member businesses across the United States, including in Iowa, where over 2,750 Iowans are employed in the firearm industry. I write on behalf of NSSF in strong support of Senate File 2138.

February 15, 2022

Members of the Iowa Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Environment:

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. (NSSF) is the trade association for the firearm industry. NSSF represents over 9,000 member businesses across the United States, including in Iowa, where over 2,750 Iowans are employed in the firearm industry. I write on behalf of NSSF in strong support of Senate File 2138.

NSSF has worked for years to increase participation in hunting, gun ownership, and the shooting sports through R3 efforts. "R3" stands for Recruit, Retain and Reactivate. Today, NSSF leads R3 initiatives that include National Shooting Sports Month, +One, First Shots, #LetsGoShooting, and #LetsGoHunting, just to name a few. NSSF regularly partners with non-governmental organizations, government wildlife agencies, and wildlife organizations in other R3 projects. Wildlife is thriving because of collaboration like this.

As we work to recruit more hunters, it is important that hunting be as accessible as possible for aspiring youth hunters. Younger hunters and those of smaller stature have been left out of Iowa's turkey season over the years because they have not been permitted to use .410 shotguns. Shotguns in this caliber tend to have less recoil and are lighter to carry. Importantly, .410s have been shown to be effective and safe for taking turkey.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. is supportive Senate File 2138, a bill to allow .410 bore shotguns for turkey hunting in Iowa. We thank Senator Schultz for his efforts on SF 2138 and the committee for the consideration.

Sincerely,



Christopher Lee

Name: Jon Zinnel

Comment: Members of the Iowa Senate Committee on Natural Resources: Federal, Remington and HEVISHot 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 Senate File 2138. I am also a former resident of Iowa with lots of family and friends that reside in the great state of IA and enjoy turkey hunting each spring. This update would allow my friends and family with young kids and wives that are interested in hunting turkeys the ability to do so while not worrying about the increased recoil from other options. Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

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SPEER

Remington



February 14, 2022

Members of the Iowa Senate 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 Senate File 2138.

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 SF 2138 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.

Thank you for your consideration of SF 2138 and the inclusion of the shot size concerns. 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,

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