

May 20, 2015

Senator Joe Uecker,

Senator, I am writing to you about House Bill 64 on behalf of the Toronto Rod & Gun Club, Inc. This reasonable proposed non-resident fee increase is supported by our membership. The great state of Ohio is one of the top non-resident destinations for the purpose of hunting white-tail deer, yet our non-resident fees are way below the national average compared to other states.

The profit of additional revenue would far exceed any loss of licensure. As mentioned earlier, Ohio is a destination state for deer hunting. The concern that this could also impact tourism revenue is valid, but the impact would be minimal at most. In my professional experiences, the people who decide not to hunt in our state due to a small increase in a hunting license fee are the same people who spend very little while in our state. Their loss of revenue is insignificant compared to the gains we will see. To sum it up, the reward will out way the risk.

The Division of Wildlife does so much for our state with so little, imagine what could be done with this additional revenue. This is why we at Toronto Rod & Gun, Inc. support House Bill 64.

Thank you.

Eric Crust - President, Toronto Rod & Gun Club, Inc.