

Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chairman Huffman, Ranking Member Fedor, and members of the Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Joint Resolution 3.

My name is Janie Sunderlin, and I would like to give you a brief summary of why I feel qualified to speak in favor of SJR3.

I am a member of Amboy Rifle Club and the secretary and an active member of the Ashtabula County Wildlife Conservation League. I am also a certified NRA Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Range Safety Officer and Conceal Carry Instructor. Along with this I am also a certified Boy and Girl Scout firearms and archery instructor along with being an Ohio State Hunter and Bowhunter Education Instructor. Not to mention the fact that I am an avid hunter and fisher woman.

Section 22(A) of the proposed resolution reads, "The right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife is a valued part of Ohio's heritage and shall be forever preserved for the public good." If you ask any wildlife biologist they will tell you the number one and only way to manage wildlife numbers and populations is through sport hunting. Several communities have tried other means even going as far as to hire paid sharpshooters to come in, at night, and shoot them over bait piles to the tune of \$1600.00 per deer. Harvesting one hundred deer per year in an effort to control their population. This was Solon Ohio's way of dealing with the overpopulation for many years. Until the founder and CEO of White Buffalo Wildlife Management Services told them himself the only way to control any wildlife population is through sport hunting and fishing.

In principle, I am saying that we as outdoor sportsmen and women are doing more for the welfare of wildlife than any other entity. We are insuring, with the help of the Ohio Division of Wildlife, that this sustainable and renewable resource is kept at levels that are healthy and beneficial not only to themselves but to the humans they share their space with.

Protecting our hunting and fishing heritage is not only important to the sports persons of Ohio but of utmost importance to our wildlife population. There is nothing worse than seeing a deer so weak from starvation that it can't even jump a three-stand barbed wire fence to get to a food source. Instead it becomes impaled and dies a miserable slow and agonizing death. Or a mother deer who is so weak that she can't produce enough milk to feed her newborn fawns. And believe me when I say this is what could eventually happen if these rights are not protected.

As a child I grew up in Maryland and my uncle introduced me to the wonders of the outdoor world of hunting and fishing. After my parents moved to Cleveland Ohio I lost all contact with that lifestyle and only occasionally was able to rekindle my love of it on summer vacation trips back home. Then I met my present husband and all that changed. He is a man the lives for the outdoor sports, preserving its heritage, and passing it on to future generations. Together we have had an amazing outdoor adventure. Harvesting animals from all over the world. As a result of this wonderful journey we have jointly tried to instill these ideals and traditions into hundreds of, if not more, children through our Hunter Education Classes.

Finally I would like to say SJR3 is not just about insuring us the right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife. It's about treating our wildlife with the dignity and respect that they deserve. It's

about traditions, heritage, knowledge, and a way of life that needs to be preserved and passed on.

In closing, Chairman Schaffer, Vice Chairman Huffman, Ranking Member Fedor, and members of the Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Joint Resolution 3. I will now open the floor to any questions you may have.