

Before the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee

March 9, 2016

HCR 5008

**Mike Murray and Karin Brownlee on behalf of the
Kansas State Rifle Association**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The over 5,000 members of the Kansas State Rifle Association (KSRA) stand in strong support of HCR 5008 which would amend the Kansas Constitution to guarantee the right to hunt, fish and trap. HCR 5008 is a legislative priority in 2016 for the KSRA.

Passage of an amendment such as is proposed in HCR 5008 is not unprecedented. Vermont was the first to do so in 1777 and 18 other states have followed suit including Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Florida and New Hampshire have done so by statute. And California's constitutional amendment protects the right to fish.

There are numerous national groups which actively oppose hunting, fishing and trapping. They pose a very real threat to the preservation of our Kansas outdoor heritage for future generations.

I've attached information from Women's Outdoor News and the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation which documents the anti-hunting, fishing and trapping goals and activities of such organizations. They range from banning hunting of wolves, deer, elk, bears, mountain lions and bobcats; defying hunter harassment laws by interfering with hunts; banning the use of lead ammunition and use of lead in fishing tackle; banning hunting of animals for sport; claiming the rights of animals are birthrights similar to those of human beings; banning the keeping hunting dogs in outdoor kennels; and banning animal testing in medical research.

These anti-hunting, fishing and trapping groups include: **Humane Society of the United States, Washington, DC; **Center for Biological Diversity, Tucson, Arizona; **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Norfolk, Virginia; **Defenders of Wildlife, Washington, DC; **Sierra Club, San Francisco, California; **The Fund for Animals, New York, New York; **Howling for Wolves, Hopkins, Minnesota; **American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, New York, New York; **Western Environmental Law Center, Eugene, Oregon; **In Defense of Animals, San Rafael, California; **Friends of Animals, Danien, Connecticut; **WildEarth Guardians, Santa Fe, New Mexico; **Born Free USA, Washington, DC; **International Fund for Animal Welfare, Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts.

My favorite quote from the Friends of Animals is "hunting in all forms is unethical, socially unjustifiable and ecologically disruptive" and "hunting is an important cause of many deer/auto collisions....by inciting the deer to be incautious". And to think I thought it was because of the deer crossing signs.

The KSRA respectfully urges your favorable consideration of HCR 5008.

The Right Of Way*Stay the course-keep to the Right***Top 12 Organizations against hunting, trapping, and fishing**Posted on January 2, 2013 by [The Compassionate Conservative](#)**The Dirty Dozen***Courtesy of the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance (www.ussportsmen.org)*

There are groups that undermine and manipulate systems across America to end hunting, trapping and fishing. These same "less-than-honest" groups also often then exploit wildlife and conservation issues in the name of raising dollars for their devious causes. Here are a dozen organizations that have taken efforts in the past year to prevent you from hunting or trapping:

1. **Humane Society of the United States (HSUS):** After losing an effort to have the chairman of California's Game Commission removed because he went legally hunting for mountain lions in another state, HSUS then pushed legislation to end the hunting of bears and bobcats with hounds in California. HSUS has also threatened to sue to stop wolf hunting in the Western Great Lakes region. Shame on them.
2. **Center for Biological Diversity:** This group has repeatedly sued the federal government to end the use of traditional hunting ammunition through attempts to ban lead. This ban would also apply to fishing tackle and would affect all sportsmen and women. The group's information is based on flawed details about lead and bullets. The CBD is also working—and suing—to stop Western Great Lakes region wolf hunting seasons.
3. **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA):** This radical animal rights group issued a request for its minions across America to break established hunter harassment laws. PETA urged followers to interfere with hunts by protesting, spreading human hair, and other unlawful acts.
4. **Defenders of Wildlife:** This group has been working to end wolf management in Wyoming and misguiding the public on the truth about overpopulated Yellowstone wolves. Defenders of Wildlife has filed a number of anti-hunting lawsuits and often seeks to recoup its legal costs for the suits from taxpayers.
5. **Sierra Club:** This group's board of directors worked for—and implemented—a policy officially opposing all trapping. The Sierra Club also tried to end a decades old elk hunt on public land in Wyoming.
6. **The Fund for Animals:** They have threatened to sue to halt established Western Great Lakes region wolf hunts after hunters and state game management supporters were successful in removing the long recovered wolves from the Endangered Species List. They have also filed a suit that would stop wolf management in Wyoming.
7. **Howling for Wolves:** A Minnesota-based group suing to stop wolf hunting in that state. The group claims that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources didn't properly adopt the hunting season even though it went through the same process as other hunting seasons.

8. **American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals:** Supports laws to prevent keeping dogs in outside kennels (a standard practice across America). They have also filed a brief supporting the lawsuit aimed at shutting down wolf hunting with dogs in Wisconsin.
9. **Western Environmental Law Center:** A ring leader in a group of eight anti-organizations that want to ban wolverine trapping in Montana until the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) determines if the wolverine will be placed on the federal threatened and endangered species lists. This is just another "backdoor" ploy to end all trapping.
10. **In Defense of Animals:** This anti-hunting group sued to stop bear hunting in Virginia, has called for a boycott of Alaska over its highly successful and sustainable wolf management program, strongly opposes wolf management in the Northern Rocky Mountains, and is pushing for a federal ban on animal testing for medical research.
11. **Friends of Animals:** This Connecticut-based group believes "hunting in all forms is unethical, socially unjustifiable and ecologically disruptive." The group worked against bear hunting in New Jersey, deer hunting in Connecticut, and against many science-based conservation programs. This group claims "hunting is an important cause of many deer/auto collisions... by inciting the deer to be incautious."
12. **WildEarth Guardians:** They earn a place on this shame list for working to ban trapping on public land in New Mexico. This group has also sued the federal Wildlife Services department over their wolf management program and has called on Congress to end funding for this important federal wildlife management entity.

Please spread the word on these anti groups. Your next hunting, fishing or trapping trip depends on it.

TCC: Prepare to Defend Yourselves.....Molon Labe!

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One Response to Top 12 Organizations against hunting, trapping, and fishing

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The Right Of Way "Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rabidly promoted by an unscrupulous mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a turd by the clean end."
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10 Organizations That Want to Stop You From Hunting

Posted by: Barbara Baird , April 29, 2015

Taken from www.womensoutdoornews.com

1 The Humane Society of the United States, Headquarters: Washington, D.C.

Calling itself “the nation’s largest and most effective animal protection organization,” the HSUS describes its mission in regard to hunting as conducting campaigns to stop “inhumane and unsporting hunting practices such as ‘canned hunts’ of captive exotic animals.” We know, though, that the HSUS participates in raising money for a variety of anti-hunting and anti-trapping campaigns nationally. You might be surprised to learn that, according to Humane Watch, the HSUS gives less than 1% to local pet shelters.

2 People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), Headquarters: Norfolk, Va.

With its “I’d rather go naked than wear fur” and anti-flesh eating campaign, this anti-hunting organization of 12 million worldwide members believes we’ve evolved past the need to hunt. At its website, PETA proclaims, “Quick kills are rare, and many animals suffer prolonged, painful deaths when hunters severely injure but fail to kill them.” The organization prefers to leave nature alone and of course, nature will balance itself. What PETA does well is educate its members on how to combat hunting. In particular, PETA encourages its members to defy hunter harassment laws in this country.

3 Born Free USA, Headquarters: Washington, D.C.

Focusing on “animals used in entertainment, captive exotic animals, trapping and fur, and the international wildlife trade,”

this group spun off the movie “Born Free,” in 1984, from founders Bill Travers and Virginia McKenna (who starred in the movie). The organization opened a headquarters in the U.S. in 2002, and prides itself on “compassionate conservation.” The organization targets trapping, and encourages members to start anti-trapping campaigns, providing tools and resources at its website.

4. Center for Biological Diversity, Headquarters: Tucson, Ariz.

With a stated mission to “work through science, law and creative media to secure a future for all species, great or small, hovering on the brink of extinction,” the Center for Biological Diversity is pouring efforts into a campaign to stop wolf hunting, or as they say, “the slaughter of wolves,” and urges its membership to take action against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department’s recent delisting of gray wolves. Since it also is concerned about the world’s human population explosion, it also offered “endangered species condoms” on Earth Day. You’ll see this group petitioning the EPA to prohibit lead ammo, too.

5. Defenders of Wildlife, Headquarters: Washington, D.C.

Calling itself a “major national conservation organization focused solely on wildlife and habitat conservation and the safeguarding of biodiversity,” the Defenders of Wildlife can be found in courtrooms across the country, filing injunctions to stop hunting. According to the U.S. Sportsmen’s Alliance, “Defenders of Wildlife ... often seeks to recoup its legal costs for the suits from taxpayers.” It currently is battling wolf hunting.

6. International Fund for Animal Welfare, Headquarters: Yarmouth Port, Mass.

This organization has a presence in more than 40 countries, and has campaigned to end commercial whaling, fox hunts and seal hunts, to name a few. It is vehemently opposed to hunting with dogs.

7. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Headquarters: New York City

As the first established humane organization in the Western Hemisphere, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) rescues animals from abuse and works to pass “humane” laws. Its website states, “The ASPCA is opposed to hunting animals for sport, even if the animals killed in this way are subsequently consumed. The ASPCA does recognize that wildlife management may be necessary in situations where animal and human interests collide, but urges that management strategies be nonlethal wherever possible and never include avoidable suffering or distress.”

8. Western Environmental Law Center, Headquarters: Eugene, Ore.

As its name implies, this organization focuses on the Western states, and currently leads the fight to ban wolverine trapping in Montana. It is against all trapping, though. Just like most anti-gun groups, it seeks to fight small battles until the war is won.

9. In Defense of Animals, Headquarters: San Rafael, Ca.

A look at the “About” page for Defense of Animals sums its philosophy: “The rights of animals are birthrights, similar to those we claim for ourselves—the right to live our lives free of subjugation and institutionalized violence, where the random and special joys of being alive can be experienced.” Prohibiting hunting in national wildlife refuges is one of its key campaigns.

10. Sierra Club, Headquarters: San Francisco, Ca.

This is a shocker to several outdoor writers, I know. The Sierra Club snuck into this lineup because of its stance against using hounds to hunt bears and bobcats in California – which the state legislature banned. The Sierra Club joined the aforementioned ASPCA in the anti-hound-hunting law that went into effect in January 2013. According to Sportsmenvote.com, the Sierra Club is opposed to all forms of trapping.