



## QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

---

P.O. Box 160 • 170 Whitetail Way • Bogart, GA 30622  
PHONE: 800.209.3337 • FAX: 706.353.0223 • [www.QDMA.com](http://www.QDMA.com)

Date: 18 July 2019  
To: House Committee on Natural Resources  
From: Jacob Pries, Policy Intern  
Re: Support for H.R. 877

---

On behalf of the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA), we would like to state our support for H.R. 877 the Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund Act and respectfully request that you support this vital piece of legislation, as well. The QDMA is a national nonprofit wildlife conservation organization dedicated to ensuring the future of white-tailed deer, wildlife habitat and our hunting heritage. The QDMA has over 60,000 members nationwide and our membership includes hunters, landowners and natural resource professionals.

Hunters are the champions of conservation in this country. In total, they account for approximately 80% of the funding for state fish and wildlife agencies each year. These contributions are made possible by programs being expanded upon in the Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund Act. This piece of legislation is vital to ensuring our children and grandchildren have the same opportunity to garner the invaluable experiences we have had the great fortune of experiencing while afield. H.R. 877 includes important provisions to improve hunter reactivation, recruitment and retention efforts, often referred to as R3 efforts. This contributes to sustaining the tradition of hunting that is so deeply rooted in the history of the United States of America.

The American System of Conservation Funding is unique and has worked extremely well. The user pays and the public benefits. Hunter dollars help fund conservation initiatives across the country, allowing the citizenry of the United States to enjoy the various natural wonders that the United States has to offer. Additionally, hunters have substantially helped the economy contributing \$55.4 billion to the nation's GDP. Unfortunately, hunter numbers have dwindled across the country and with that, so has their contribution to conservation funding. By passing H.R. 877 and increasing the R3 efforts outlined in the bill, this can help revive a dwindling hunting population and stabilize funding for conservation efforts across the country. Passing this bill is a crucial step towards the conservation of our natural resources, improving economic stability, preserving the deeply rooted hunting tradition, and upholding one of the most successful conservation funding models in the world. On behalf of the Quality Deer Management Association, we would like to thank you for your time, your dedicated service to this country and your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Jacob Pries  
Policy Intern (QDMA)