

## Senate Resolution 924

By: Senators Heath of the 31st, Ginn of the 47th, Shafer of the 48th, Cowsert of the 46th, Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Congress to enact legislation for the purpose of enhancing hunting,  
2 fishing, recreational shooting, and other outdoor recreational opportunities, as well as  
3 strengthen conservation efforts nationwide; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, to this day, conservation is funded primarily by sportsmen and sportswomen;  
5 this American system of conservation funding is a user-pays-public-benefits approach that  
6 includes excise taxes on hunting, fishing, and boating equipment, a strategy that is widely  
7 recognized as the most successful model of fish and wildlife management funding in the  
8 world; and

9 WHEREAS, through the pursuit of their outdoor passions, sportsmen and sportswomen  
10 support hundreds of thousands of jobs and contribute billions to our economy annually  
11 through salaries, wages, and product purchases; and

12 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has worked on several pieces of legislation over the  
13 years to boost a number of key conservation priorities that are supported by millions in the  
14 outdoor recreational community; and

15 WHEREAS, currently pending legislation in both the United States House and Senate would  
16 create or renew several important programs that are vital to the continued conservation of our  
17 natural resources, the health of America's local economies, and the enhancement and  
18 protection of our time-honored outdoor pastimes; and

19 WHEREAS, the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act (SHARE),  
20 H.R. 2406, and the Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act, S. 405, contain a broad array of bipartisan  
21 measures, including the Recreational Fishing and Hunting Opportunities Act; the Hunting,  
22 Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act; the Target Practice and Marksmanship  
23 Training Support Act; and the Recreational Lands Self-Defense Act; and

24 WHEREAS, a complementary piece of legislation also exists in the United States House,  
25 called the Sportsmen's Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Enhancement Act (SCORE),  
26 H.R. 3173, which shares several similar titles with the SHARE Act and Bipartisan  
27 Sportsmen's Act; and

28 WHEREAS, provisions in the SCORE Act include the National Fish Habitat Initiative Sense  
29 of Congress, the Federal Lands Transaction Facilitation Act reauthorization, the North  
30 American Wetlands Conservation Act reauthorization, the National Fish and Wildlife  
31 Foundation reauthorization, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act  
32 reauthorization, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Act reauthorization, and the  
33 Making Public Lands Public authorization; and

34 WHEREAS, by renewing or creating these programs, these bills will enhance opportunities  
35 for hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and other outdoor recreation enthusiasts, improve  
36 access to public lands, and help boost the outdoor recreation economy; and

37 WHEREAS, conserving our fish and wildlife resources and their habitats and ensuring that  
38 future generations have access to public lands and continued recreational opportunities are  
39 of great importance and are bipartisan issues.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
41 urge the United States Congress to enact legislation for the purpose of enhancing hunting,  
42 fishing, recreational shooting, and other outdoor recreational opportunities, as well as  
43 strengthen conservation efforts nationwide.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
45 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the President of the  
46 United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the  
47 members of the Georgia congressional delegation.