

Committee: Deer, Wild Turkey & Elk
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Extending Turkey Hunting Hours

WHEREAS, Missouri Department of Conservation has made it a goal to Recruit and Retain hunters; and

WHEREAS, the majority of hunters cite time restraints as the major limiting factor to their involvement in the hunting; and

WHEREAS, no state that has all day spring turkey hunting has seen a decrease in turkey population or hunting quality, or a significant increase in spring turkey harvest; and

WHEREAS, the majority of Missouri turkey hunters surveyed support all day turkey hunting (58%) at a level that is 10 percentage points higher than levels seen for recent approved changes for archery deer methods; and

WHEREAS, Study results have shown that MO hunters kill a very small percentage of Missouri's turkey population each spring; and

WHEREAS, States that have allowed all day hunting have seen a sustained increase in the amount of youth participating; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 20st day of March 2016, request that Missouri Department of Conservation change turkey hunting hours to one half hour before sunrise to sunset effective throughout the 2017 and future Spring Firearms turkey seasons.