



## LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

February 25, 2016  
United States House  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Oppose the SHARE Act (H.R. 2406), an assault on wildlife, public lands, and more**

Dear Representative:

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

LCV urges you to vote NO on H.R. 2406, the “Sportsmen’s Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act of 2015. This legislation is loaded with provisions that would roll back protections for America’s treasured public lands and indiscriminately harm wildlife management efforts across the country. In addition, the bill would erode other bedrock environmental laws including the National Environmental Policy Act, Wilderness Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act, National Wildlife Improvement Act, and Toxic Substances Control Act.

The American public overwhelmingly supports protecting special places for future generations and this legislation would open up our most pristine protected lands to road-building, motorized vehicles and other activities that undermine the explicit intent of the Wilderness Act. Furthermore, this legislation cuts the public out of management decisions impacting hundreds of millions of acres of our shared public lands and diverts funding meant for conservation to fill holes left from the abysmal amount appropriated to agencies like the National Park Service.

This legislation would also directly and indirectly harm wildlife by waiving environmental reviews for all management activities on 150 million acres of the National Wildlife Refuge System and potentially allowing trapping – something that threatens imperiled and non-target wildlife - on millions of acres of public lands where it is currently prohibited. Additionally, this legislation undermines our international commitments to combat ivory trafficking, threatens to increase the amount of lead poisoning in our waterways, and thwarts our ability to effectively manage our marine resources.

We urge you to REJECT H.R. 2406. While no amendment outcomes will change our opposition to the underlying bill, we urge you to oppose any anti-environment amendments and support pro-environment amendments and have included our position on specific amendments below. We will strongly consider including ALL votes on this bill in the 2016 Scorecard.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski  
President



## LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

### **We urge NO votes on the following amendments:**

#### **Ribble/Lummis/Benishek/Peterson Amendment #2:**

This amendment removes Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections for gray wolves in several states and overrules two federal court rulings on the ESA.

#### **Young Amendment #5:**

This amendment blocks the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service from regulating non-subsistence hunting on wildlife refuges and preserves in Alaska.

#### **Fleming Amendment #11:**

This amendment allows state wildlife agencies to override federal management decisions on national forests.

#### **Wittman Amendment #13:**

This amendment would encourage the privatization of public lands by removing the offsetting provision in the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) that uses proceeds from land sales to go towards the purchase of additional lands.

#### **Newhouse Amendment #44:**

This amendment would weaken the ability of the Forest Service to close little-used roads in order to protect fish habitat and water quality.

#### **Smith Amendment #45:**

This amendment severely restricts the authority of the U.S. Forest Service by blocking their ability to issue any hunting or fishing regulations on certain forest lands.

#### **Smith Amendment #47:**

This amendment hinders the ability of land managers to protect federal lands by restricting their ability to close hunter access corridors.

### **We urge YES votes on the following amendments:**

#### **Lowenthal Amendment #9:**

This amendment would allow the Department of the Interior to increase the price of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) to account for inflation, which would help to keep up with increased land costs.

#### **Meng Amendment #17:**

This amendment would give more resources to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to combat wildlife trafficking and poaching in Africa.

#### **Beyer Amendment #24:**

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## LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

This amendment blocks provisions of the underlying bill that attempt to restrict the protection of sensitive marine ecosystems.

**Huffman Amendment #26:**

This amendment requires the Government Accountability Office to conduct a study that would provide information on designing more effective measures to combat elephant poaching.

**Jackson Amendment #32:**

This amendment eliminates a provision in the underlying bill that would weaken the Marine Mammal Protection Act and encourage the importation of polar bear trophies.

**Huffman Amendment #43:**

This amendment designates the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.