

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED ALABAMA HUNTING  
AND FISHING LICENSE FEES**

**WHEREAS**, *The Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society is an organization of wildlife professionals whose mission is to enhance the ability of its members to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources for the benefit of Alabama's citizens; and*

**WHEREAS**, *The Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is primarily funded by two mechanisms: hunting and fishing license sales and federal matching funds through the Wildlife Restoration Program(Pittman Robertson) and Sportfish Restoration Program(Dingell-Johnson/Wallop-Breaux); and*

**WHEREAS**, *funds available through the Wildlife and Sportfish restoration programs are obtained on the basis of one state dollar for every three federal dollars; and*

**WHEREAS**, *not one cent of State General Fund money goes to the Division; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the Division previously completed a self-imposed right-sizing initiative in an attempt to maintain service levels under increasing budget pressure; and*

**WHEREAS**, *Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division provides critical services to Alabama, such as conservation enforcement officer service, wildlife and fisheries biologists' expertise and management, and wildlife management area, public fishing lake, and fish hatchery administration, all services which benefit Alabama wildlife resources and its citizens; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the last resident hunting and fishing license increase in Alabama was in 1989;*

**THEREFORE**, *the Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society recommends that our members, legislators, hunters, anglers and the general public support an increase in hunting and fishing license fees, and that the increase be indexed to allow for license fees to gradually increase with other costs of living.*