

8-29-1941

## Resolution 1941-04-14 Undesirable Firearms Legislation

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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### Recommended Citation

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, *Resolution 1941-04-14 Undesirable Firearms Legislation* (1941),  
Available at: [http://digitalcommons.law.msu.edu/afwa\\_reso/945](http://digitalcommons.law.msu.edu/afwa_reso/945)

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**Whereas** this provision was made to simplify the enforcement problems of the several states and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

**Whereas** the one-bird limit is an experiment pointed toward the solving of peculiar wildlife problems and local situations requiring special attention:

**Be it resolved** that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, in convention assembled at St. Louis, voice its approval of this experiment and urge the states to cooperate in carrying out the intent and purpose of this provision which may serve as a guide in the handling of future wildlife problems of a peculiar nature.

#### **UNDESIRABLE FIREARMS LEGISLATION**

**Whereas** a bill was recently introduced in the United States Senate, known as the Property Seizure Bill, providing among other things for the registration and possible confiscation of all firearms, which was definitely against the interests of the sportsmen of this country, and

**Whereas** the House of Representatives amended this Senate Bill 1579 to eliminate sporting firearms:

**Be it resolved** that this International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners endorse the action of the House of Representatives in preventing undue hardship on the sportsmen of this country, and

**Be it further resolved** that this Association oppose all future legislation providing for registration or confiscation of sporting firearms, which because of varying calibers can never be of vital use to the military or naval defenses of this nation.

#### **SENATE WILDLIFE COMMITTEE**

**Whereas** there was established in the U. S. Senate in April, 1930, a Special Committee on the Conservation of Wildlife Resources, and

**Whereas** said committee has been a great benefit to the conservation program through the legislation it has approved and sponsored and by the reports which it has from time to time made, and

**Whereas** the need for a standing committee on conservation of wildlife resources is important, particularly so at this time of great national defense when coordination of defense activities and the wildlife program should be even more closely followed now;

**Therefore be it resolved** that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, in convention assembled, urge the U. S. Senate to establish a standing committee on conservation of wildlife resources to replace the existing special committee.

#### **HIGH DAMS**

**Whereas** it is evident that true public values have not been given consideration in the construction of many high dams and that these structures frequently cause serious impairment or destruction of important aquatic resources, and

**Whereas** certain individuals, under the subterfuge of "national defense," "flood control" and similar titles designed to mislead the public, have exploited our water resources on a large scale under the guise of "public water conservation," and

**Whereas** these immense projects, present and planned for the future, wholly ignore the biology of water, existing aquatic resources and the public's right to their enjoyment and threaten to blanket the nation with high dams:

**Be it resolved** that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners oppose the approval or construction of all high dams until competent biologists, including those of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have made an investigation of all such projects and their reports made an integral part of the factual data, so that all of the broad public aspects, including fish and game values, may be given serious consideration and that no dam be authorized unless the new values to be created clearly exceed the existing public values that are to be displaced, and

**Be it further resolved** that, where the need is indicated, the dam authorization include the installation of suitable screens, fishways, or other fish-management devices and that the dam-construction agencies be charged with the definite responsibility of maintaining and operating such devices.

#### **FUTURE POLICIES**

**Whereas** there have been many problems within the past year relating to Federal cooperation and legislation in which the Association is interested, and