

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 556

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## AN ACT

To prohibit the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture from prohibiting the use of lead ammunition or tackle on certain Federal land or water under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Access for  
5 Hunters and Anglers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROTECTING ACCESS FOR HUNTERS AND ANGLERS**  
7                   **ON FEDERAL LAND AND WATER.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section  
9 20.21 or 20.108 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations  
10 (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act), and  
11 subsection (b), the Secretary of the Interior, acting  
12 through the Director of the United States Fish and Wild-  
13 life Service or the Director of the Bureau of Land Man-  
14 agement, and the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through  
15 the Chief of the Forest Service (referred to in this section  
16 as the “applicable Secretary”), may not—

17               (1) prohibit the use of lead ammunition or tack-  
18       le on Federal land or water that is—

19                       (A) under the jurisdiction of the applicable  
20       Secretary; and

21                       (B) made available for hunting or fishing  
22       activities; or

23               (2) issue regulations relating to the level of lead  
24       in ammunition or tackle to be used on Federal land  
25       or water described in paragraph (1).

1 (b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to  
2 a prohibition or regulations described in that subsection  
3 that are limited to a specific unit of Federal land or water,  
4 if the applicable Secretary determines that—

5 (1) a decline in wildlife population at the spe-  
6 cific unit of Federal land or water is primarily  
7 caused by the use of lead in ammunition or tackle,  
8 based on the field data from the specific unit of Fed-  
9 eral land or water; and

10 (2) the prohibition or regulations, as applicable,  
11 are—

12 (A) consistent with the law of the State in  
13 which the specific Federal land or water is lo-  
14 cated;

15 (B) consistent with an applicable policy of  
16 the fish and wildlife department of the State in  
17 which the specific Federal land or water is lo-  
18 cated; or

19 (C) approved by the applicable fish and  
20 wildlife department of the State in which the  
21 specific Federal land or water is located.

22 (c) FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE.—The applicable  
23 Secretary shall include in a Federal Register notice with  
24 respect to any prohibition or regulations that meet the re-  
25 quirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b)

- 1 an explanation of how the prohibition or regulations, as
- 2 applicable, meet those requirements.

Passed the House of Representatives March 18,  
2026.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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