

Date 4-16-81

Time \_\_\_\_\_

No: 870

# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1981



# ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 870

(By Mr. Kopelman)



Passed April 3, 1981

In Effect July 1, 1981 ~~Passage~~



**ENROLLED**

**H. B. 870**

(By MR. KOPELMAN)

[Passed April 3, 1981; in effect July 1, 1981.]

AN ACT to amend chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article two-a, relating to wildlife resources; creating a voluntary wildlife check-off program for individual taxpayers; providing for disposition of funds; and specifying effective date.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated article two-a, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 2A. VOLUNTARY WILDLIFE CHECK-OFF PROGRAM.**

**§20-2A-1. Voluntary wildlife check-off; legislative intent.**

1 It is in the public interest to preserve, protect and per-  
2 petuate all species of wildlife for the use and benefit of  
3 the citizens of West Virginia. The intent of this legislation is  
4 to provide additional funding for wildlife programs, to be  
5 primarily used to enhance nongame wildlife programs and  
6 for the management, preservation, protection and perpe-  
7 tuation of nongame species.

8 The financing of these programs will be derived from a  
9 voluntary check-off and contribution designation on state per-  
10 sonal income tax return forms of a portion or all of a taxpayer's

11 refund. The funding provided shall be supplemental to existing  
12 revenues.

**§20-2A-2. Voluntary check-off designation.**

1 (a) Each West Virginia individual income tax return form  
2 shall contain a designation as follows:

3 *West Virginia Voluntary Wildlife Check-Off Program.*

4 Check ( ) if you wish to designate \$1, \$5, \$10, or more  
5 of your tax refund for this program. If joint return, check ( )  
6 if spouse wishes to designate \$1, \$5, \$10, or more.

7 (b) Each individual taxpayer desiring to contribute to  
8 the voluntary wildlife program may designate by placing an  
9 "X" in the appropriate box on the state income tax return  
10 form. His contribution shall be credited to said program.

**§20-2A-3. Contributions credited to special fund.**

1 The tax department shall determine by the first day of  
2 July of each year the total amount designated pursuant to  
3 this legislation and shall report such amount to the state  
4 treasurer who shall credit such amount to a special depart-  
5 ment of natural resources fund.

**§20-2A-4. Use of funds.**

1 The funds shall be used for the purpose of enhancement  
2 and perpetuation of nongame wildlife programs in this  
3 state upon order of the director. The director shall on the fif-  
4 teenth day of January each year furnish the Legislature with  
5 a report stating the amount of money that has been provided  
6 and how such moneys have been expended.

**§20-2A-5. Effective date.**

1 This legislation shall take effect on the first day of January,  
2 one thousand nine hundred eighty-two, and shall apply to tax  
3 return forms filed thereafter.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

*[Signature]*  
Chairman Senate Committee

*[Signature]*  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House.

Takes effect July 1, 1981.

*[Signature]*  
Clerk of the Senate

*[Signature]*  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

*[Signature]*  
President of the Senate

*[Signature]*  
Speaker House of Delegates

The within *passed* this the *16*  
day of *April*, 1981.

*[Signature]*  
Governor

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