WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1981

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 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.


It is in the public interest to preserve, protect and perpetuate all species of wildlife for the use and benefit of the citizens of West Virginia. The intent of this legislation is to provide additional funding for wildlife programs, to be primarily used to enhance nongame wildlife programs and for the management, preservation, protection and perpetuation of nongame species.

The financing of these programs will be derived from a voluntary check-off and contribution designation on state personal income tax return forms of a portion or all of a taxpayer's
refund. The funding provided shall be supplemental to existing
revenues.


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

West Virginia Voluntary Wildlife Check-Off Program.

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

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


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

§20-2A-4. Use of funds.

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

§20-2A-5. Effective date.

This legislation shall take effect on the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred eighty-two, and shall apply to tax return forms filed thereafter.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Tony E. Whitlow

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House.

Takes effect July 1, 1981.

Clerk of the Senate

W. Blankenship

Clerk of the House of Delegates

Warren R. McElroy

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within _________ day of _________, 1981, is approved this the _________ day of _________, 1981.

Governor