

2021 Resolutions

Originating Committee: Rivers, Streams, and Fisheries

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Intended Recipient(s): Missouri Department of Conservation

Enable Missouri Citizens Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) to Apply for Reduced-Fee Fishing Permits

WHEREAS, in *Fishing for the Future: A Plan for Angler Recruitment and Retention in Missouri*, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) set a goal of “Modifying Permitting for Convenience and Diverse Opportunities for All Types of Anglers” and by allowing Missouri residents participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to apply for a reduced-fee fishing permit, MDC can diversify the angler population and allow food-insecure families the chance to catch quality nutritious fish; and

WHEREAS, participants could also benefit from current MDC programs aimed at facilitating angler recruitment and retention, such as the Discover Nature Fishing program which teaches participants how to fish; and

WHEREAS, the Rod-and-Reel Loaner program allows residents to borrow fishing equipment, including rods and tackle; and

WHEREAS, MDC already offers a reduced-fee small game permit to Missouri veterans and active-duty military members which demonstrates the ability of the MDC to offer reduced-cost permits to particular individuals; and

WHEREAS, Iowa and North Carolina have both implemented similar programs involving free fishing permits based on income or participation in the SNAP program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Conservation Federation of Missouri, assembled this 6th day of March, 2021, encourages the Missouri Department of Conservation to implement a reduced-fee fishing permit program for SNAP participants and other low income Missourians.

Searchable Keywords: angler recruitment, SNAP, fishing permit, reduced-fee fishing program

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