

By: Representatives Pearce, Wardlaw

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE ARKANSAS STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION
GAME WARDEN BRADY SMITH AS THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY
FEDERATION'S WILDLIFE OFFICER OF THE YEAR.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE ARKANSAS STATE GAME AND
FISH COMMISSION GAME WARDEN BRADY SMITH
AS THE NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION'S
WILDLIFE OFFICER OF THE YEAR.

WHEREAS, Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission Game Warden Brady Smith earned the National Wild Turkey Federation's Wildlife Officer of the Year Award at the forty-ninth annual National Wild Turkey Federation Convention and Sport Show held on February 14, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife Officer of the Year Award is given to individuals who have excelled and demonstrated exceptional performance in teamwork and innovation, attitude and leadership, and achievements and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, while this award is usually akin to a lifetime achievement award, Game Warden Smith earned this award in only his second year as an Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission Game Warden; and

WHEREAS, Game Warden Smith works in Cleburne County, which is one of Arkansas's busiest counties for game wardens during hunting seasons, and he also assists neighboring counties in their efforts to curtail poaching



activities; and

WHEREAS, as the leading officer in his district, Game Warden Smith has assisted with numerous cases, and he is a strong investigator who dedicates long hours in his efforts to prevent and end poaching and other hunting violations; and

WHEREAS, Game Warden Smith's interactions with the community have been commended on several occasions, even by violators; and

WHEREAS, Game Warden Smith also assists with hunting and boating education classes, attends high school trap tournaments, assists with the annual fishing derby held on the Little Red River, speaks to elementary school classes, assists with the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission Youth Shooting Sports Program, and participated in "Shop with a Cop" during the holiday season to assist underprivileged youth; and

WHEREAS, Game Warden Smith earned a bachelor's degree in the Science of Criminal Justice from Williams Baptist University; and

WHEREAS, National Wild Turkey Federation Co-Chief Executive Officer Kurt Dyroff said of Game Warden Smith, "Brady's love for the outdoors is evident in his diligent work catching poachers and those who do not follow the rules that ensure the sustainability of our natural resources . . . Brady's work ethic represents the conservation of wildlife and sharing the lifechanging power of the outdoors"; and

WHEREAS, Chief of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission's Enforcement Division Colonel Brad Young said of Game Warden Smith and his work, "Catching people baiting or otherwise cheating the system to poach turkeys is one of the more time-consuming and most challenging parts of a game warden's duties, too, so we really take it personally. Smith's recognition is well-deserved and something all our Arkansas game wardens take pride in"; and

WHEREAS, Game Warden Smith said of receiving the award, "It is a great

honor. I mean, words can't even describe it. I grew up hunting . . . I started turkey hunting when I was six years old, and I wanted to be a game warden ever since I was thirteen or fourteen, and to be here in this building and convention, I mean, it is just amazing",

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives recognize Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission Game Warden Brady Smith as the National Wild Turkey Federation's Wildlife Officer of the Year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to Game Warden Brady Smith by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.