

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 556

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 19, 2026

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

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)

