

Title: Make poaching a felony

650509

The problem: The current fines and penalties for poaching aren't enough to detour poachers. If poaching were a felony poachers would loose the rights to own and possess firearms making poaching less effective. May of these violators are multiple offenders proving they are not getting the message. In Texas for example poaching is a felony, it comes with a \$10,000.00 fine and 4 years in prison mandatory.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Walworth County on April 13, 2009 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing rule changes making poaching a felony for multiple violators or first time violators with multiple poaching charges. In addition anyone shooting at night first offence with the aid of a light would receive a felony if convicted because of reckless endangerment because of not being able to see beyond the target. I believe a \$10,000.00 fine, probation and 1000 hours or more of community service would be better than paying to keep violators in prison at tax payers expense unless they continue to practice poaching.

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Passed or failed

County Resolution Number \_\_\_\_\_

County Vote: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_