



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2549</b>		DATE: <b>1/29/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Conservation and Natural Resources</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/29/2026 10:15 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**I am in Support of this change. I believe in Private Property Owner-Rights.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LISA PANNETT</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-280-1585</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>ARMORVINE</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>226 KADIE CT</b>			
CITY: <b>LINN CREEK</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65052</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/29/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN MYERS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/29/2026 4:32 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I was there today to testify but time ran short. The following is the testimony I was prepared to give. Having never testified before this committee, I'll share just a little about myself. I volunteer as State Director of Women for Gun Rights, am a member of Armed Women of America, having just stepped down as a chapter leader after 7yrs, and currently lead my church's volunteer safety team. Most of my time here at the capitol is focused on advocating for, and educating on the carrying of firearms for personal protection as well as in defense of others, with an emphasis on the carry rights of female firearms owners.

Today though, my many volunteer hats are set aside. I'm here today simply as a mom. Back before our first son was born we scrimped and saved to get a little place out in the country where our boy could grow up as my husband had, roaming the nearby woods and fields, fishing and hunting. We had just over 5 acres and our two sons were able to hunt on our little slice of heaven. Our budget was tight, so the no-cost landowner permits were instrumental in the making of so many memories that will last them a lifetime.

Now grown, our boys each have 5 acres. Each also now has a son of their own. I want for my grandsons the same opportunities that my sons had growing up, the heritage and tradition of being stewards of and hunting their own land.

I ask that you support and pass HB 2549 and return the minimal acreage back to 5 where it should have remained in the first place.

I thank the bill sponsor for his continued efforts on behalf of this issue.

Thank you.  
**Susan Myers, Missouri State Director  
 Women for Gun Rights**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TIMOTHY FABER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/23/2026 2:39 PM</b>	

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I strongly support this bill, both on personal grounds as well as principle. I happen to own about 9 acres in Morgan County. This plot of ground provides me a quiet refuge from the busyness of life, as well as blackberries, walnuts, room for chickens to feast on the ticks (converting that protein to fresh eggs) and plenty of deer. When I bought this property I was able to obtain a deer tag – and consequently a deer in the freezer – every year, without cost.

But then, a few years ago, the Missouri Conservation Commission revoked my right to hunt freely on my own land. They did this without my permission or my consent, nor that of my neighbors. By imposing a fee paid to a government agency without the consent of the governed is the very definition of taxation without representation.

If such government / bureaucratic overreach is allowed to continue, it will only be a matter of time before the commission wants to charge me a fee for the wild blackberries I pick, or the ticks that my chickens eat (after all, aren't ticks also a form of wildlife?)

So, inasmuch as this bill seeks to restore the American principle of no taxation without representation, and restore the rights I personally had to hunt on my own property just a few years ago, I fully and heartily admonish you to vote "do pass".



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KORTNIE HUDDLESTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/29/2026 10:41 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I stand in opposition to this bill, which prioritizes private landowner privilege over the foundational principles of public stewardship and scientific wildlife management.

Our state’s wildlife is a public trust, belonging to all Missourians. Current landowner permit requirements are not bureaucratic red tape; they are a minimal, crucial tool for the Department of Conservation to gather basic data. By prohibiting property registration, this bill deliberately blinds the state’s ability to track hunting activity, monitor harvests, and gather ecological data necessary for sustainable, science-based management. This erodes a public resource for private convenience.

Furthermore, the mandate to issue permits for any parcel of just five acres, regardless of habitat suitability or local population density, is ecologically reckless. It encourages the treatment of wildlife as a private commodity to be taken on small, marginal plots, divorced from broader conservation goals.

The provision granting a free, two-day non-resident permit to out-of-state family members is particularly egregious. It effectively creates a loophole for unregulated, non-resident hunting, bypassing the standard permit fees and allocations that fund our state’s entire conservation apparatus. Our conservation efforts are financed by the people of Missouri, through license fees and taxes. This bill allows a select few to opt out of that shared responsibility while still exploiting the shared resource.

This legislation represents a libertarian fantasy that undermines collective action. It shifts the balance from public, scientific management toward a fragmented, "every landowner for themselves" model that will harm wildlife populations and degrade a resource held in common. I urge you to defend science-based conservation and reject H.B. 4238.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL DREYER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/29/2026 10:38 PM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/24/2026 12:58 PM</b>

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I oppose HB 2549 because it does the opposite of what good government should do.

Instead of minding its own lane, it injects the Legislature directly into the relationship between private landowners and a constitutionally established regulatory body.

Missouri already settled this question in its Constitution by assigning wildlife regulation to the Missouri Conservation Commission.

HB 2549 doesn't reduce government involvement—it rearranges it, substituting legislative micromanagement for a system designed to keep politics out of conservation decisions.

If the goal is to respect landowners, the answer is not more statutory commands telling a commission exactly what it may or may not require.

That is still government intrusion—just from a different direction. True restraint means allowing the constitutional framework to function as intended, without legislative overrides every time a policy disagreement arises.

Wildlife is a public resource, but land is private.

The existing system balances those realities through rules developed by a body specifically insulated from political pressure. HB 2549 upsets that balance, invites legal conflict, and expands government reach into private land under the banner of “freedom.”

Government should mind its own business—and in Missouri, wildlife regulation on private land is already placed where it belongs.

For these reasons, HB 2549 should not advance.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TYLER SCHWARTZE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-2322</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>728 WEST MAIN STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/29/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>AARON JEFFRIES</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-680-4539</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION</b>		TITLE: <b>DEPUTY DIRECTOR</b>
ADDRESS: <b>2320 PLYMOUTH ROCK DRIVE</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL: <b>Aaron.Jeffries@mdc.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/27/2026 3:55 PM</b>
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