



Common Sense Initiative

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Sean McCullough, Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian Becker, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

FROM: Sean McCullough, Director

DATE: February 9, 2022

RE: CSI Review – General Hunting and Trapping Regulations (OAC 1501:31-15-02)

On behalf of Lt. Governor Jon Husted, and pursuant to the authority granted to the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Office under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 107.54, the CSI Office has reviewed the abovementioned administrative rule package and associated Business Impact Analysis (BIA). This memo represents the CSI Office's comments to the Board as provided for in ORC 107.54.

Analysis

This rule package consists of one amended rule proposed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (Department). This rule package was submitted to the CSI Office on February 2, 2022, and the public comment period was held open through February 9, 2022. Unless otherwise noted below, this recommendation reflects the version of the proposed rules filed with the CSI Office on February 2, 2022.

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 1501:31-15-02 specifies the methods for hunting and trapping wild game, along with the sale of the harvested game. The primary substantive amendment to this rule concerns record keeping inspections for meat processors and taxidermists. The amendment permits the owner of a taxidermy or meat processing facility to refuse on site record inspection by a law enforcement officer, and further that the officer must acquire a warrant to enter the facility to conduct the inspection once refused. Other amendments to the rule include eliminating certain information required to be kept by businesses, and to update language.

During early stakeholder outreach, the Board sent the proposed rule to 665 meat processors and taxidermists. No comments were received for the rule for early stakeholder or the CSI comment

period.

The business community impacted by the rules includes all Ohio taxidermists and wild game meat processors. The adverse impacts created by the rule include the cost to maintain required records, and the reduced burden of removing information that businesses are currently required to document. The Board states that the amendments to the rule are justified as they lessen the burden of compliance on the regulated community.

Recommendations

Based on the information above, the CSI Office has no recommendations on this rule package.

Conclusion

The CSI Office concludes that the Department should proceed in filing the proposed rules with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.