

COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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April 18, 2022

The Honorable Bill Dodd Capitol Office 1021 O Street, Suite 6620 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 865 Junior hunting licenses: age of eligibility. (Dodd) - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Dodd,

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors is submitting this letter in support of SB 865, a bill that would modify the age of eligibility for an applicant for a reduced-fee junior hunting license from age 16 to 18. This change would be in effect through 2028, and would also require that by October 1, 2026, the Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide a written report to the Legislature evaluating the effect of the change in age eligibility.

According to the 2021 Census, the population of Siskiyou County is estimated to be 44,118 with approximately twenty percent of the population being made up of persons under 18 years of age. With this proposed change, our County foresees an increase in junior hunting license sales which would subsequently increase juvenile participation in hunting and firearms education and proficiency.

Hunter education is a requirement for obtaining a hunting license in the state of California. By giving our juvenile hunters an opportunity to obtain a hunting license at a reduced cost until the age of 18, it will encourage them to participate in activities that will strengthen and encourage a background of hunter's responsibility.

We, as the Board of Supervisors for Siskiyou County, support a reduced-fee junior hunting license for those who are 18 years and younger, of which directly benefits hunters' safety, education, and responsible hunting. We would like to thank you for bringing this bill forward and for your support of our future juvenile responsible hunters.

Sincerely,

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Brandom As4Criss, Chair Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Brian Dahle Assembly Member Megan Dahle