**Sporting Goods Excise Tax Modernization Act**

Issue:

* Federal excise taxes are placed on sportfishing and archery equipment – these taxes are paid by the manufacturer or importer at the first point of sale in the U.S.
* There is a tax loophole – when purchasing goods from online marketplaces, the tax is not paid.
* This places a disadvantage on domestic manufacturers and favors foreign importers. Domestic producers and foreign importers should face the same standards.
* This bill shifts the tax responsibility onto online marketplaces – forcing them to collect the taxes at the point of sale.

What are excise taxes?

* Excise Tax = tax levied on certain goods or services when purchased
* Tax is paid by manufacturers, producers, and importers.
* Often manufacturers raise the cost of the products, so ultimately the consumer pays.

Where does the tax revenue go?

* Excise tax revenue is gathered by the hunting, archery, and fishing industry then deposited to the Department of the Treasury
* Treasury gathers the excise tax money then gives the funds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who then distributes it to the states’ conservation funds.
* Excise tax applies to all commercial sales and imports for shooting, archery, fishing tackle, and fishing equipment.

What conservation programs are funded?

* Revenue generated from the excise tax for hunting, archery, and sportfishing is divided up and passed out to state wildlife agencies for wildlife restoration, conservation, education, and shooting programs.
* Projects in AL: boat access construction and maintenance, fish hatcheries, research, fishing and archery events, hunter education

Funding Levels:

* Sportfishing: Dingell -Johnson Sport Fish Restoration [funds](https://tracs.fws.gov/sportFishRestorationApportionments.html) in 2025:
	+ Alabama: $7.12 million;
	+ National: $414.4 million
* Hunting/Archery: Pittman-Robertson Wildlife and Hunter Education [funds](https://tracs.fws.gov/wildlifeRestorationAndHunterEducationApportionments.html) in 2025:
	+ Alabama: $20.8 million;
	+ National: $914.4 million