

## A Resolution to Reaffirm Support for Hunting With the Use of Dogs

Whereas, hunting has long been a central thread in the fabric of North Carolina culture; and

Whereas, hunting with the use of dogs has been practiced for centuries in the Old North State; and

Whereas, hunting dogs used in North Carolina include pointers, spaniels, retrievers, scent-hunting pursuit hounds and other diverse and specialized breeds; and

Whereas, thousands of hunters spend untold hours each year training dogs as part of their authentic tradition of hunting; and

Whereas, dogs are used by hunters young and old to pursue grouse and quail, waterfowl and woodcock, deer and bear, rabbits and squirrels, raccoons and possums, and fox and bobcats from our mountains to the sea; and

Whereas, hunting with the use of dogs transcends issues of age, race, gender, and socioeconomics; and

Whereas, the Plott Hound, a breed originating in our North Carolina mountains over 250 years ago and developed for hunting bear and boar, was designated as our North Carolina State Dog in 1989; and

Whereas, designation of the Plott Hound as our North Carolina State Dog stands as testament to the history and importance of hunting using dogs in North Carolina, and

*Whereas*, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes § 113-291, has statutory authority to regulate hunting in North Carolina, *and* 

*Whereas*, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has a successful record of working with multiple partners to provide opportunities for hunters to use dogs on state and private lands where feasible and appropriate.

*Now, therefore be it resolved* that the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, in official session on January 13, 2011, reaffirms its unwavering support for the use of dogs in hunting in North Carolina in all circumstances where such hunting is consistent with the sound conservation of our state's treasured wildlife resources and not contrary to the protection of the private property rights of its citizens.

Steve Windham, Chairman

Gordon S. Myers, Executive Director