

905 East Main Street
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May 24, 1989

Honorable Thomas R. Caltagirone
PA House of Representatives
House Post Office
Main Capital Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0028

1¹ Honorable Thomas R. Caltagirone:

1¹ Since 1934 the Labor Day Shoot has been very special for many people of the Hegins Area. This event has been beneficial in that it has provided a facility that is used by many organizations and families throughout this community. Other towns and cities spend tens of thousands of tax dollars to provide a recreational facility such as the Hegins Park. Tax dollars do not support the Hegins Park.

1¹ The main objective of the Labor Day event, I believe this to be true, was and is to provide an activity for sportsmen who by choice want to compete with other sportsmen. Since these sportsmen, who love this sport, have supported our Labor Day for the past 54 years we would like to and feel obligated to continue this shoot for them. In many cases father and sons and brothers spend time together at something they like and want to do. This shoot has gone on without police protection and has not caused any trouble for our community or any other people for the first 50+ years. There has never been any injuries to anyone all these years. Only in the past three or four years some people from out of the area have succeeded in drawing national attention along with demanding police protection costing tax payers many tax dollars. These protestors came to Hegins trying to disrupt and criticize a local peaceful event. The sportsmen and local towns people stood by and watched and took their abuse. We were not breaking any law.

1¹ Probably the most rewarding of all is that the people of this community have learned to work together donating much time for a common cause. Young men, and in the past few years some girls, get paid for setting the traps. This has taught these young people the reward for working and the value of money and that shooting is serious and dangerous. These young boys and girls, contrary to what the protestors want to have you believe grow up to be hard working, professional and business people. I would challenge anyone to go to the large employers outside this community and ask them how they like the employees from the Hegins Valley and how they compare them to other employees.

1¹ The 200 volunteers who donate their time each year strongly disagree with the proposed H.B. 696 and its potential interference with their rights. Also the rights of sportsmen who enjoyed this sport for hundreds of years. //

Very truly yours,

Bob Tobash
Member Hegins Park Assn. &
Labor Day Committee