

I voted Yes on H.R. 3117, the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act.

This bill would permanently continue the electronic duck stamp program and allow any state to participate. In 2006, Congress established a pilot electronic duck stamp sales program under which the Interior Department partnered with eight states (not including New York) to sell duck stamps online, but authority for the pilot officially expired in 2010.

Duck stamps are required to hunt migratory waterfowl on federal lands. Importantly, these hunting licenses also serve as a conservation tool. Duck stamps cost \$15 and most of the proceeds are used to purchase or lease wetland habitats for protection and conservation.

Overall, some \$750 million has been collected, allowing the protection of over 5 million acres of refuge lands.

I support this legislation which makes it easier to obtain federal duck stamps, thereby improving outdoor recreation for our sportsmen and generating more revenue to be used for conservation efforts.

The bill was approved by a vote of 373 – 1.