

Testimony of John Bradley North Dakota Wildlife Federation House Bill 1178 House Energy & Natural Resources Committee January 21, 2021

Chairman Porter, members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

For the record, I am John Bradley, Executive Director of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation (NDWF). I am here today representing our 1,500 members and 15 affiliated wildlife and sportsmen's club across North Dakota.

NDWF urges a do not pass on HB 1178. Again, it is tough to come out against a bill that benefits active duty military. NDWF believes in an equitable opportunity for residents in the deer lottery system. Passage of HB 1178 would set a precedent for other special interest groups to come in and demand special treatment. In 2020, over 30,000 residents were unsuccessful in the first and second deer lotteries. In the past, even more residents have been unsuccessful. Allowing nonresident active-duty military would increase the number of unsuccessful resident applicants proportionally and would be an unwelcome change to North Dakota resident hunters.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions that the committee might have.