

Dear Energy and Natural Resource Committee,

I am writing this letter in support for HB1151. My name is Steve Portenga and I am nonresident bow hunter and own my second home here in North Dakota. I have been coming here to hunt since 2016. In the time that I have spent here my observation is in direct conflict with the ban of baiting. I have spent many hours studying the deer and their patterns. What I have concluded is that it doesn't take baiting to make deer congregate. It's a in their nature. That makes the ban on baiting unproductive. If for one second, I thought that a ban on baiting would curb the spread of CWD and save the deer population I would be all for it, but that doesn't seem to be the case, if there is even a case to be had.

I have countless video and pictures of deer on my property congregating without the enticement of baiting. The only science I know is what I can see with my own eyes and I'm sure most can too.

Furthermore, why is it okay to allow deer to feed in food plots in the winter but baiting is not allowed.

This makes absolutely no sense. So, this makes me wonder why the ban on baiting?