

TESTIMONY OF JEREMY DUCKWITZ
HB 1151
SENATE ENERGY and NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE

Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee:

For the record, my name is Jeremy Duckwitz of Moffit, ND. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1151.

I am submitting this testimony in OPPOSITION of HB 1151.

I do have a stance on ethics. The future of hunting is at stake when we choose to tweak the emphasis from fair chase, to the kill. Baiting of deer is not sport hunting, instead, reduces the act to just shooting. Just like the end goal of life should not be to get it over quickly, it should, instead, focus on the experience and quality of life. What will the future hunters experience when reducing hunting to the raising and butchering of wild meat collected from a trough? Then why not allow pheasants to be shot with a rifle? It allows a quick, clean kill, as many baiting proponents argue. Hence, when would unethical behavior seize, all for the sake of property rights? Because we are ethical citizens that trust the judgment of those with the most experience, the ND Game and Fish Department.

While every voice shall be heard, allow the network of wildlife professionals to conduct their work on behalf of the public. If wildlife professionals state that the banning of baiting deer is the most effective means of combating CWD, and is supported by scores of professional reference, then their stance should not be overridden. Doing so, would only jeopardize future wildlife management and state to our children, we chose not to make the best decision available and necessary.

Thank you for serving our ND citizens, especially during the difficult distraction this winter has created. I urge you to support the ND Game and Fish Department's CWD Plan and give HB 1151 a DO NOT PASS vote.

Thank you.

Jeremy Duckwitz, Moffit