

HB 1151

Dear Energy and Natural Resource Committee,

This letter is to express my support for HB 1151. There are several simple reasons baiting on private land should be legal in North Dakota.

- 1. A ban on baiting creates 2 classes of citizens. Hunters and Non-hunters. If “Joe” enjoys feeding the deer on his property but doesn’t hunt. Game and Fish can’t do anything because he is not hunting over the bait he is just feeding wildlife. However, if Joe decides to shoot a deer over the same bait pile that somehow promotes the spread of CWD. That makes zero sense.**
- 2. Wisconsin has a state wide ban on hunting over bait and they have no measurable results that say it has slowed CWD.**
- 3. Deer in North Dakota naturally herd up in the winter months. Game and Fish under the crusade of slowing CWD keep going after baiting because it’s a place where deer come in close quarters with each other. Deer right now are herded up in the 100’s right now in farm yards, elevator sites and feed lots looking for food in close quarters with each other. Does this not spread CWD? Why is it only a problem if it hunted over?**

Until the Game and Fish can pin point bait piles are the problem, they should be legal. We just went through “2 weeks to slow the spread” and we couldn’t slow it down. Do you really think you can slow CWD in a wild animal? Highly unlikely. Pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Lance Straabe

Hope ND