

Mr. Chairman & Members of the Natural Resources Committee:

I am a hunter, fisherman and landowner. I am in support of this bill for a number of reasons that include:

1. In my opinion the North Dakota Game & Fish Department is using CWD as a “reason” or “excuse” to ban baiting. I do not feel they have the deer or the sportsman’s best interest in mind.
2. We cannot stop deer from “grouping up” whether we bait or feed or we do not. It is what they do.
3. The North Dakota Game & Fish tends to be reactive rather than proactive in their procedure. They have been “analyzing” CWD for decades, even killing off herds of deer with no success in curbing it. There is some research happening on finding a cure for the disease but our Game & Fish is not interested in that.
4. The primary reason I support this bill is that I feel the North Dakota Game & Fish Department’s desire to ban baiting is infringing on landowner’s rights. We know we do not “own” the wildlife that resides on our land but if we see animals that cannot get to food because of harsh winters we should be able to feed them, rather than let them starve.

Thank you for your consideration. Please vote yes on HB 1151.

Sincerely,

Cindy Williamson