

I'm reaching out to you today to respectfully ask for a no vote on HB 1151. As a wildlife biologist and deer hunter, I am opposed to the bill because it would severely undermine the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's authority and ability to manage the public's deer and deer hunting with the best-available science.

The bill removes the authority from NDGF to issue rules or adopt a policy prohibiting the baiting of big game for lawful hunting, regardless of disease risk in hunting units. If the Department loses their tools to manage for diseases like chronic wasting disease and bovine TB in the state, who is going to take responsibility when a disease outbreak occurs?

As a hunter, I want healthy, robust populations of deer. This bill puts the long-term viability of our deer herd and deer hunting in jeopardy for the benefit of a small minority of people. Hunting is one of North Dakotas best assets and I want it to remain that way for future generations.

Please Vote No on HB 1151.

Thanks,

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