

Chairman Patten, Honorable Committee members,

My name is Dave Brandt and I am one of your constituents who lives along the James River north of Jamestown. I am writing you to urge you to vote no on HB 1151.

This is a bad bill that would take away a vital tool from our Game and Fish agency to manage for minimizing disease potential in our big game populations. Whereas big game such as deer do naturally congregate during part of the year, typically after gun season, baiting prior to and during season (and often done year-round) artificially extends that period when they are in close proximity and therefore logically increases their potential exposure to transmissible diseases such as CWD and brucellosis. This bill is being pushed by a minority of hunters who only have their interests at heart which is evidenced by the submitted testimony of practically all ND sportsmen and women's groups against this bill, many of which I am personally a member. Even though I am one, we as hunters do not even make up 30% of ND's citizenry, and our G&F is mandated to manage the state's wildlife for all citizens. The minority of a minority should not dictate what our trained wildlife professionals decide is in the best interest of ND's big game herds.

Please vote NO on this bill which would hamstring those who are best qualified to make decisions pertaining our Public Trust wildlife resources. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Dave Brandt

Buchanan, ND