

TESTIMONY OF JOHN BRADLEY
NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
HOUSE BILL 1260
SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MARCH 27, 2025

Chairman Patten and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

For the record, I am John Bradley, Executive Director of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation (NDWF).

NDWF is in support of HB 1260 which would allow the North Dakota Game and Fish Department to use current year population numbers instead of the previous year's. Our mule deer population can and has fluctuated dramatically in the course of one year. To allocate licenses based on a previous year of a healthy herd when the following season that herd has been decimated by disease or a harsh winter is a poor system. It is unfair to both resident and non-resident sportsmen allocating tags utilizing this method. Using the current year populations is a better reflection of the resource and ensures that allocations are more accurately aligned with population trends.

We urge a Do Pass on HB 1260.