

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

I am writing today to express my support for SB2155 and encourage you to give this bill a “*Do Pass*” recommendation.

Hunting pronghorn in North Dakota is a highly sought after experience with demand (unfortunately) outweighing supply. Many non-landowners will wait 10 years or more to draw a license allowing them to hunt a buck antelope while some landowners are able to draw one annually. With pronghorn populations low and license demand high, the current gratis system needs to be amended. SB2155 is a good start to that process.

The current system allows the first 50 buck licenses to be allocated to landowners owning land in the hunting unit. Due to consistently low pronghorn populations, several units see more licenses go to landowners than non-landowning applicants, despite a majority of applications coming from non-landowners. This bill will not eliminate opportunities for landowners to have licenses allocated to them. Rather, it will make the number of landowner tags equal to 50% of the total buck tags allocated in that unit.

Thank you for considering my testimony and please give SB2155 a “*Do Pass*” recommendation.

Joseph Doll
Bismarck, ND