

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3007
(Representatives Porter, Carlson, Damschen, Hanson)
(Senators Stenehjem, Hogue)

A concurrent resolution urging Congress to amend federal law or policy to implement the North Dakota Game and Fish Department alternative that would allow North Dakota resident sharpshooters to take elk within Theodore Roosevelt National Park to assist the National Park Service in reducing and managing the park's elk population.

WHEREAS, Theodore Roosevelt National Park has released a Draft Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement; and

WHEREAS, the Draft Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement analyzes four action alternatives for initial herd reduction, as well as a no action alternative, and one alternative that could be used in combination with others for elk herd maintenance; and

WHEREAS, one alternative for initial herd reduction focuses on sharpshooting elk, using government employees, contractors, or skilled volunteers; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is opposed to the action alternatives identified in the Draft Elk Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement released by Theodore Roosevelt National Park; and

WHEREAS, hunting within the park boundaries is not currently allowed; and

WHEREAS, the elk population of Theodore Roosevelt National Park must be reduced to manageable levels to sustain a healthy population of elk in the park; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department has developed and recommended an alternative that would reduce the elk population in Theodore Roosevelt National Park using certified volunteer sharpshooters; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota sportsmen have the hunting tradition, expertise, and ethics to assist the National Park Service in this effort; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota sharpshooters should be chosen by a lottery system and be entitled to keep any animal the sharpshooter takes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to amend federal law or policy to implement the North Dakota Game and Fish Department alternative that would allow North Dakota resident sharpshooters to take elk within Theodore Roosevelt National Park to assist the National Park Service in reducing and managing the park's elk population; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the Secretary of the Interior, the director of the National Park Service, the superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2009,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State