

RE: HB 1151

Dear Energy and Natural Resource Committee,

This letter is to express my support for HB 1151

I am in favor of this bill. Hunting is great for North Dakota. Allowing Game and Fish to place a baiting ban on big game is nothing more than taking away an opportunity. Its up to the individual to decide if they want to use bait or not use bait for hunting. Youth Hunters especially will benefit from being able to use bait. Kids are the future of our sport, and they need every opportunity possible to keep the tradition alive. A Bait pile is a great tool for kids to harvest deer. I also fear that if Game and Fish implements a baiting ban where do they draw the line? Will hunting in a feed lot suddenly become hunting over bait? Will placing a blind near a hay bale be considered hunting over bait? If a farmer spills grain in a field and you hunt near it will that be considered hunting over bait? There are just too many variables here.

I would have a completely different opinion if the science showed that CWD was truly spread through baiting. But CWD is a smoke in mirrors game, and they have proven time and time again that it is not being spread through baiting. So please do not allow Game and Fish to take away another opportunity.

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