

Dear Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I am testifying in opposition to HB 1151.

I am neutral on the practice of baiting itself, I do feel strongly however in allowing the state's hired scientists and professionals at the Game and Fish to do their job. They are the experts in such subject matters and should be allowed to do their job as they see fit in order to ensure we have healthy populations of all game and non-game species alike on the landscape.

Our elected officials are experts in many subject matters and they should be using their time and resources to answer the tough questions that are needed to run the state and leave all game and fish matters to the game and fish department as that is their area of expertise and their job.

I believe it sets a dangerous precedent to allow the legislature to overrule the experts on any subject matter and could have dire consequences in the future for the wildlife in our state. Thank you for your consideration.

Michael J Thomas

Life Long North Dakota Hunter