

I am Kent Reiersen from Williston ND and oppose HB 1151. I concur in the statement offered by North Dakota Bowhunters Association. There is no logical reason not to follow the best scientific evidence related to CWD management. Those who oppose the North Dakota Game and Fish Departments CWD management plan to eliminate baiting in units where CWD has been found is sound and common sense. Those who believe baiting in those areas should continue are either short sighted or simply ignoring the presently known facts about CWD. They would rather selfishly have an increased opportunity to kill a deer over bait rather than take a more conservative approach to try and reduce the spread of CWD and maintain a deer herd in future years for others to enjoy the hunting opportunity.

The NDGF department attempts to apply the science and best management practices to safeguard our resources such as deer. Putting this issue in the political arena simply is being done by those with self-serving motives. There is no biologically beneficial element to baiting deer. I believe that game management decisions related to CWD are best left to professional, game and fish departments like the NDGF Department. Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments.