

In Opposition to HB 1151

My name is Scott Rehak from Williston, ND. I have, in the past, felt strongly about many bills that have been introduced in Legislature in my 50 years as a sportsman in ND. This is the first time I've testified on any bill. This is why I feel so strongly against taking the best management practices for our deer herd out of the hands of the ND Game & Fish Department and put into the hands of elected officials. The NDGF Department have reviewed all the scientific data on CWD and implemented a plan to try and slow the spread of this fatal disease.

Having bow hunted for over 40 years and taken numerous whitetails, primarily with a recurve, I've never used baiting as a shortcut to fill a bow tag. In a time of instant gratification, baiting HAS become that short cut for many people who buy a bow tag. Whitetail deer archery tags are available till the very end of the bow season and over the counter for both residents AND non-residents. Baiting has become a get in, fill your tag, and get on to the next hunt.

In conclusion, I would urge a no vote on HB 1151 and leave the management of our wildlife in the hands of our NDGF Department, backed by scientific data and not emotion.