

Chairman Porter, Vice Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee:

I am requesting that you give **HB1377 a DO NOT PASS** vote. HB1377 would allow party hunting for deer, enabling a single hunter to shoot up to ten (10) deer – or even more in a single year.

Due to declining habitat, disease, and weather, maintaining a stable deer herd and deer license numbers are already considerable challenges. HB1377 will put even more pressure on the resource by increasing success rates, which will further decrease the number of licenses available. The problem will continue to compound itself. Most hunters will find it takes even longer to draw a tag as greedy deer killers scheme to acquire more tags through non-hunting relatives and friends.

HB1377 is not about keeping kids interested in hunting. I grew up with the lottery and understand it. I didn't lose interest in hunting because it took a few years to draw a tag. My son is 32 and the same can be said for him. Last round, we went six years without drawing a tag and still feel the current system is very fair. In most units, doe tags are an easy draw. If I just want to shoot a deer, I could change my outlook and go doe hunting. There's nothing wrong with that.

HB1377 is about a few greedy hunters wanting to kill more deer. It's about bragging rights, not hunting heritage. Our hunting heritage is about individualism and determination. I will never let someone else shoot my deer, nor will I shoot theirs. I will never have my parents or non-hunting spouse deprive another true hunter of a license, just so I can shoot more deer. Unfortunately, if this bill passes, a lot of people will do just that.

The success of a hunt should not be measured by the kill. It should be measured by the experience of being in the field with family and friends. Success is not a facebook post of a guy standing over a pile of 10 dead bucks. We don't need to change our party hunting law. People need to change their perception of success.

Please help preserve the integrity of our hunting heritage and our resources by giving **HB1377 a DO NOT PASS** recommendation.

Your time and consideration are appreciated.

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