

My name is Dylan Jacobsen. I am in favor of bill 1151. As a ND farmer and hunter I think its very important to be able to continue to be able to bait for deer on private land. Without baiting it is very hard to get and keep our youth and disadvantaged hunters interested in the sport of hunting. It helps create opportunities that would otherwise be almost nonexistent. Baiting does not guarantee anything but it is a helpful tool. I know that the NDGF is concerned about CWD but unfortunately it is already here and here to stay. I do not believe baiting will contribute more to the spread of CWD. As I look around at our local deer herds this year, my observations are that the deer are very grouped up and congregated this year to their most available food sources, many of which happen to be cattle yards which have an abundance of hay and other feed for cattle. The deer will do this every year regardless of baiting restrictions. I dont believe NDGF should have the authority to tell private land owners that they cannot bait deer. If they are worried about deer congregating on feed, they should incentivize landowners to leave standing crop, food plots on multiple sections of land whereas to keep the deer more spread out. Giving incentives to landowners rather than restrictions would be a much more proactive way to try to combat this problem.