

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Please vote No on HB 1151. This bill is foolish. The ability to manage wildlife diseases needs to stay with the Game and Fish Department. Chronic Wasting Disease threatens our deer hunting traditions in North Dakota and it should be in the interest of every hunter to do what we can to slow down the spread of this disease. People who hunt over bait do not take priority over the well-being of the deer herd. It doesn't matter if they are a landowner, handicapped, youth, or adult, the resource comes first. Over half the states in the country have banned baiting for big game, all have handicapped programs and youth seasons. Shooting a deer over a corn pile is not more important than the health and sustainability of the entire deer herd.

The North Dakota constitution says that hunting will be managed by law and regulation for the public good. The current regulations that ban baiting where CWD is present are clearly in the best interest of the deer herd and the public good. This bill is selfish and short sighted.

Please do not pass HB 1151.

Chet Wahl

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