

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to oppose HB 1151. Although I live in Montana now, I spent several years hunting in North Dakota and continue to enjoy that passtime in your wonderful state. As a wildlife/conservation professional with nearly two decades of experience (and six years of formal education in wildlife management), I believe we need to allow the North Dakota Game and Fish Department to make decisions regarding the management of wildlife rather than listening to "loud voices" in a voting minority. Perhaps you are familiar with Colorado's wolf reintroduction ballot initiative where uneducated voters have forced the state game department to commit resources to "bring back" an animal that had already returned to the state on its own. Trust trained professionals to act in the best interest of both the resource and their constituents rather than whoever keeps tugging on your ear. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for considering my testimony.

Mason