



NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

**TESTIMONY OF JOHN BRADLEY
NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
SENATE BILL 2297
SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 3, 2023**

Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

For the record, I am John Bradley, executive director of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation. I'm here today representing our thousands of members in 15 affiliated wildlife and sportsmen's clubs across North Dakota that make up the North Dakota Wildlife Federation.

NDWF supports HB 2297. In a time when ND Game & Fish is struggling to recruit new volunteers and Hunter Ed instructors, we should be doing everything we can to support and recognize those who have spent years dedicated to helping the next generation get involved in the outdoors.

One of the NDWF's affiliates, North Dakota Hunter Education Instructors support this bill, but would like to see Hunter Education Instructor expanded to all North Dakota Game and Fish volunteers who have reached 30 years of service. A few examples of these other volunteers would be Fur Harvester Education instructors, Hooked on Fishing instructors, and Boat and Water Safety instructors.

The North Dakota Wildlife Federation urges a Do Pass on SB 2297.