February 7, 2023

North Dakota Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources **Please support SCR 4014!**

Dear Committee Members,

Please keep the wild horses, ALL of them, living free and wild in Teddy Roosevelt National Park. This is what Teddy Roosevelt would have wanted and this is what millions of Americans want now (taxpaying and voting!). By protecting the horses, SCR 4014 will help support ecotourism and business development in North Dakota.

Traveling to the park in order to see the wild horses is on our Bucket List - please don't take this opportunity away from us. These horses are North Dakota's only wild horse herd and should be protected as such.

Just like people go to see wild animals in zoos that they wouldn't normally see in this country, the "wildness" of wild horses out on the range, exhibiting wild horse behaviors, being a family, is something everyone should be able to see and experience, especially in a special place that was founded on the principals of conservation. These horses have historical lineage back to Sitting Bull! They are living history!

We want to visit Teddy Roosevelt National Park to observe wild horses undisturbed in their natural environment, along with other native animals and plants amongst them. Removing them will change our plans to visit.

Also, wild horses need a certain size herd to protect their genetic diversity and by disturbing the count, by breaking up the close-knit bands and families, you will be forever hurting them.

The Teddy Roosevelt way is to protect the "wildness" of our beautiful open spaces: you cannot change it, or even disturb it, or you will forever ruin the magnificence of these lands.

Please support SCR 4014 and SAVE THE WILD HORSES!

Respectfully submitted, Judy Salvadore and Bob Cazzani North Kingstown, Rhode Island USA