From Bonnie Johnson, Roanoke, Virginia <u>bonnielou2@cox.net</u> Feb. 8, 2023

CONCERNING THE TEDDY ROOSEVELT WILD HORSES TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE NORTH DAKOTA SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO HEAR SCR 4014 URGING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO PRESERVE THE CHERISHED WILD HORSE HERD:

1) Integral Inspiration: The horses are part of the scenery, wildlife and qualities of wilderness of the Park—which has inspired people through time, including Teddy Roosevelt

2) Lineage: The horses are descendants of the original Badland horses, as far back as the horses surrendered by Sitting Bull in the late 1800s.

3) Singularity and Protection: The horses are.North Dakota's onlyl wild horse herd.

4) Population Size: At least 150 horses are needed in the herd to allow appropriate reproduction.

5) Importance of SCR 40414: Support for Economic Development, Ecotourism, and Protection of the horses. Bill also reflects wishes of 80% of American population that wild horses be protected.

6) Supports Tourism: Many will no longer come without the horses.

7) RECOMMENDATION: SUPPORT SCR 4014 by voting YES to assure appropriate and successful methods of wild horse management on the wild horses' homelands on North Dakota's public lands.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. America hopes for your success and management excellence of the North Dakota wild horses.

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