

Date: 2/8/23

To: Members of the North Dakota Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

From: Teresa Earle, citizen who is concerned about removal of animals who are integral to our history and wild landscape

Tel: 310/529-7718 Resident in Malibu, Calif 90265

Dear esteemed committee members:

Thank you for your kind consideration of my comments in support of SCR 4014.

Wild horses are integral to the scenery, native wildlife, and wilderness qualities of the Teddy Roosevelt National Park – the landscape that inspired President Theodore Roosevelt and still inspires visitors today. My opinions can be outlined as follows:

1. The horses in the Park are descendants of the original Badland horses with historical lineages that trace all the way back to the horses surrendered by Sitting Bull in the late 1800s.
2. The Teddy Roosevelt horses are North Dakota's only wild horse herd and should be protected to keep that designation
3. The Teddy Roosevelt herd must be kept at a minimum of 150 horses in order to ensure a genetically viable herd. Removing them removes that protection.
4. SCR 4014 will clearly help support ecotourism and business development in North Dakota by protecting the horses.
5. SCR 4014 is consistent with the wishes of 80 percent of Americans who want wild horses protected.

I can guarantee you that if these horses are removed, I will not spend tourism dollars in the state any more. It is for all these reasons that I urge you all to **vote YES on SCR 4014 to support humane, scientifically recommended**

methods of managing these wild horses on the public lands they call home.

Thanks for taking my comments into consideration as you vote

Teresa