

Please Support SCR 4014

I write in support of SCR 4014. Although not a resident of North Dakota, I appreciate the State's beauty, and its contribution to our national heritage of iconic wild horses symbolizing our freedom. The wild horses of North Dakota are a source of wonder, beauty, and inspiration, and we have much to learn from the life of their herd and families, as they cooperate and care for one another. Please consider --

Wild horses are integral to the scenery, native wildlife, and wilderness qualities of the Park – the landscape that inspired President Theodore Roosevelt and still inspires and draws visitors today.

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.

The Teddy Roosevelt horses are North Dakota's only wild horse herd and should be protected as such.

The Teddy Roosevelt herd must be kept at a minimum of 150 horses in order to ensure a genetically viable herd.

SCR 4014 will help support ecotourism and business development in North Dakota by protecting the horses.

SCR 4014 is consistent with the wishes of 80 percent of Americans across the political spectrum who want wild horses protected, kept on our public lands, and humanely managed (as for example, through the use of humane, effective, proven, and economical PZP birth control vaccines, recommended by the National Academy of Sciences, to manage herd numbers as needed).

We now know that preserving the wild and protecting biodiversity are essential to our future and that of our world. The horses' removal would be a tragedy, in the face of which I could not bring myself to visit North Dakota and spend my tourism dollars there. I think that many might feel that way. I believe that the people of North Dakota, too, would feel bereft, and the land would be lonely.

I urge you to vote YES on SCR 4014 to support humane, scientifically recommended methods of managing these wild horses on the public lands they call home.

Thank you,
Clarinda Karpov
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