

I strongly support SCR 4006 and urge the committee to pass this resolution to show that North Dakota stands behind the federal protection of the TRNP wild horses. Wild horses are part of the fabric of the American image and we must protect them. It is shortsighted and cruelly destructive to strip away their protections and allow them to be culled. This is wrong, and must be halted. Below are an extensive list of reasons why it should be stopped:

1. The TRNP Wild Horses Are a Vital Part of North Dakota's History & Culture

- The Theodore Roosevelt National Park (TRNP) wild horses are living symbols of North Dakota's Western heritage and history.
- These horses trace their lineage to the early ranching era and embody the spirit of the American West.
- Protecting them ensures future generations can experience a piece of our state's past.

2. The Horses Contribute to Tourism & the Local Economy

- Thousands of visitors travel to North Dakota specifically to see these wild horses, benefiting local businesses, hotels, and restaurants.
- The economic impact of wildlife tourism in TRNP is substantial—removing the horses would hurt the tourism-driven economy of Medora and surrounding communities.

3. This Resolution Aligns with the Interests of North Dakotans

- A large majority of North Dakotans and Americans support keeping wild horses in TRNP.
- The state's voice matters—this resolution sends a strong message to federal lawmakers that North Dakotans want these horses protected.

4. Federal Protection Is the Best Path for Long-Term Preservation

- Without federal protection, the TRNP wild horses are vulnerable to removal by the National Park Service (NPS).
- The TRNP herd deserves the same recognition and safeguards as federal herds for future generations.

5. The Resolution Is a First Step—It Does Not Create Federal Protection, But It Helps

- SCR 4006 does not grant federal protection—it urges North Dakota's congressional delegation to take action.
- Having state support makes it easier to advance federal efforts to protect the herd.
- This resolution is a crucial part of the long-term fight to preserve the horses.

6. A Balanced Approach Is Possible

- There are responsible solutions that allow for a managed herd within the park.
- Federal protection can ensure humane management practices while maintaining the ecological balance of the park.

Sincerely,
Ariana Lipsman