

TESTIMONY OF JOHN BRADLEY
NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
HB BILL 1094
HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
JANUARY 17, 2024

Chairman Porter and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

For the record, I am John Bradley, executive director of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation. I'm here today representing our thousands of members in 16 affiliated wildlife and sportsmen's clubs across North Dakota that make up the North Dakota Wildlife Federation.

NDWF is opposed to HB 1094, as written. NDWF is open to the intent of the bill to expand the lottery to other organizations for their fundraising efforts. In the 2023 session, we supported SB 2294 which expanded the special allocation lottery to veteran groups organized under 501C(19). However, if the intent of the Committee is to expand the types of organizations that are allowed to apply, then NDWF believes that the Committee should amend the bill so that no funds that are generated from the special allocation lottery can be used for political or lobbying activities.

NDWF's Board of Directors has a major concern that this bill will lead to additional tags being allocated through future legislation. We would oppose any bill that increases the number of tags available in the special allocation lottery and reduces tags available in the general lottery.

Lastly, NDWF would like to see the amount donated back to conservation increase, protecting the resource that is at the core of the fundraising opportunity (20.1-05.1-02 5 C).