

Dear Committee members,

I ask for a do pass on HB1236

As a lifelong sportsman and conservationist I am asking for your support on this bill. Our family has committed 10s of thousands of dollars into habitat and feed for wildlife and we are seeing the benefits. I would be interested to see the changes that the department could have made if they invested these dollars into habitat rather than pushing their CWD narrative.

With the federal dollars that the department is received for this “narrative”, I would much rather see my license and permit dollars go to something that’s going to protect deer in the here and now rather than hypothetically down the road in 20 years. If we don’t have a deer herd to protect then, what good would the money spent now do.

Our department in the last 20 years has saw a decrease of roughly 200% of herd numbers in North Dakota. That fact is backed by license numbers that have decreased. Sportsmen are losing opportunity all while the department is asking you, the legislature, to increase license fees for North Dakotans. Fewer opportunities at a higher cost. Save the sportsmen’s dollars to “protect the herd” now, by having the department invest this money into something like habitat, or supplemental feed to help the deer survive the winter.

Thank you, and I ask for a due pass

Wyatt Thompson