

I am writing you in regards to HB 1236. I am opposed to this bill and offer the following reasons for this opposition. First as a long time hunter in North Dakota in excess of 55 years, I have always respected and relied on the North Dakota Game and Fish (G&F) to manage and protect our fish and wildlife resource.

It is so wrong and misguided for the legislature to tell the Game and Fish that they cannot use license sales to manage a scientifically proven wildlife disease. It would be equivalent to telling the North Dakota Health Department that they cannot exercise their authority and expertise to protect public health. This is an egregious legislative overreach and speaks volumes of a legislature trying its best to disable a state agency which is constitutionally required to protect our game and fish resources.

I am asking you to please consider opposing HB 1236 and allow the Game and Fish Department to do its statutory duty of wildlife management. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed legislation.