

Members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

I am writing today to express my opposition to SB2137 and encourage you to give the bill a *do not pass* recommendation.

I am a husband, father of three, and an avid outdoorsman who enjoys spending time outdoors with my family. North Dakota is rich in outdoor opportunity, many of which are maintained and even enhanced by the dedicated staff working for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGF). Their dedication and commitment to science-based management, putting the health of the resource first and foremost should not be legislated away from them.

Many in support of SB2137 talk of NDGF employees as though they are entrenched bureaucrats living in Bethesda or D.C. with no experience of how things work “in the real world.” The reality is they live among us in North Dakota, share our values, raise their families as we do, and enjoy the same things we enjoy that make this state special.

I do not oppose baiting big game. I oppose legislation that will take away the tools that NDGF uses to maintain healthy wildlife populations. SB2137 will legislate away a tool that can be used to maintain the health of big game animals that are owned in trust by all citizens of North Dakota and will establish a dangerous precedence in wildlife management in the state.

Please oppose the passing of SB2137.

Joseph Doll
Bismarck, ND