

House Energy and Natural Resources Committee members,

My name is Wyatt Stanley and I've been an avid outdoorsman in North Dakota for the last 20 years. My first deer ever harvest was with a bow over a bait pile. That bait pile was a tool that I used at a young age to be able to take an ethical shot, at a known yardage I had been practicing at. I have helped 8 youth fill their tags the last couple years and would like to continue to do so, and if baiting is a tool I can use again, I would like to use our stands to help get youth into archery hunting. I feel like after helping kids practice shooting, and then being able to place a bait pile at that same yardage, it is a very valuable thing to keep kids entertained and help them take that ethical shot. Deer are naturally herd animals... between spending time in bachelor groups in the summer, or congregated in the winter, or using the same food plot or scrape as other deer, they have contact with a number of other deer year around, and the data that has been released by the department does not back that a baiting restriction has helped slow the spread.

For these reason I Support SB 2137. Thank you, Wyatt Stanley