

I am writing in regards to SB 2137. I am opposed to this bill and offer the following reasons for this opposition. I am a mother of 2 boys and a lifetime resident of North Dakota. My husband and I own land in North Dakota and our family has hunted this land since we have owned it. We have worked to provide habitat for wildlife by planting thousands of trees and setting land aside for wildlife. Even though we work to improve habitat, we in no way believe we own any wildlife. In the same way we do not believe we have the right to do something which would have negative affects on wildlife which many North Dakotans have come to love and appreciate. I do not support the baiting of deer for the reason that it unnaturally congregates deer and will increase the probability of disease transmission, especially Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

My son has a degree in Fishery and Wildlife Management and as a family we have always supported the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. This department has always demonstrated a commitment to manage our fish and wildlife to benefit all North Dakotans. The Department has professional dedicated staff that is far more knowledgeable than anyone in this legislature to manage our wildlife and use science based management to control diseases such as CWD.

I am asking you to please oppose SB 2137 for the future of hunting and wildlife in North Dakota. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed legislation.