

I am strongly opposed to SB 2137. ND Game and Fish does amazing things in a large state and with limited funding. They know what they are doing and are fighting a new threat rising against our deer herd. This country used to pride itself on our scientific achievements. With new data are coming every day about CWD, we need to allow our wildlife biologists the flexibility to manage the herd with the best tools we have. While this may seem like a property rights issue, no one owns those deer. What happens to deer in one section can be spread to the next section, and the next, and so on. A great worry of mine is that, in a few years when my son is old enough to hunt, we won't get to experience the joy of frying up a tenderloin after his first successful hunt, but will instead have to wait for test results as to whether the deer is CWD-positive or negative. North Dakota's landscape lends itself to the potential for strong disease transmission. When we got hit with that brutal winter in 2022-2023, every shelterbelt in southeastern North Dakota had a small herd of deer, just trying to survive. While Please let the professionals do their job and protect our deer herd so that we can all hunt healthy deer.

Mike Bush