

To Whom it may Concern

While I do not have a stance on baiting ethics, I do have a stance on legislation or ballot initiatives that seek to restrict or control the ability of the wildlife professionals to fulfill their statutory and constitutional duties. Duties that require them to manage for sustainable populations of wildlife for current and future generations, and as stated in Article XI, Section 27 of the North Dakota Constitution, "Hunting, trapping, and fishing and the taking of game and fish are a valued part of our heritage and will be forever preserved for the people and managed by law and regulation for the public good."

The North Dakota Game and Fish does not ban baiting in the whole state, just in units that have had positive cases of CWD. CWD is a real threat if measures are not taken to slow the spread. Other states have not taken CWD as a threat and now have deer herds that are being affected and as a result reduced opportunity for hunters.

The management of deer in North Dakota is not a private property issue. Wildlife is owned by all North Dakotans and not I individual.

For these reasons I urge you to vote NO on SB 2137.

Thank you

Dirk McWhorter