

House Chair and members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee

SB2137- Please support as written with no amendments

My name is Andy Buntrock and I live on a farm with my wife and two young daughters who both love to hunt. I am asking you to support **SB2137** that will allow the use of feed while hunting big game on my own personal/private land. I am asking you to support this bill for these brief reasons, along with my verbal testimony:

- It is already legal to feed big game to any extent, at anytime, and in any location in the state, but the minute my daughters or I pick up a bow to hunt near feed it becomes illegal under current law because it spreads CWD, per the NDG&F. This doesn't make the least bit of sense and can be rectified by passing SB2137.
- Our unit 3C was added to the CWD restricted list so we are allowed to still feed, but not hunt over that feed. This unit lost 90-95% of its deer to EHD or Blue Tongue a few years ago. To our dismay the NDG&F response to this massive die off to EHD is that it is simply natural and just needs to run its course. Why have we spent nearly \$1 million dollars on CWD when it has only killed one single deer in the state of ND (these are NDG&F numbers). Unfortunately, the herd is dead from other causes and there is no attention put on EHD since there isn't federal dollars tied to it like CWD.
- We need to put the government in check. Our property rights are being exploited while the department pulls in more funding for testing and grants through CWD. Passing SB2137 as it is written, in a very simple manner will put things back in check.

Thank you for your time, service to our legislative process and the opportunity to submit testimony.

Andy Buntrock

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