

01/13//2025

Written testimony in support of SB 2137

Dear Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee members,

My name is Jeremy Handeland. I am a life long outdoorsman and resident of ND. I am also a father of 4 and live on a farm in northern Ward County. I am submitting a testimony today to share with you my stance on this bill. I am not going to get into the numbers or questionable science that backs the NDGF Dept's approach to CWD as I have read other testimonies that have explained this well.

What I am going to get into is my personal experience with my children losing interest in our ND outdoors and not wanting to bowhunt as much or at all anymore since the big game baiting restriction has been put in place a few years back. Today's generation of kids are built a bit different then past generations as everything they need to know is at the touch of a button. The baiting of deer allowed my kids to have instant action to keep their attention and enjoy our great ND outdoors. The 5 gallon bucket of corn would bring in pheasants, rabbits, squirrels, along with deer to help maintain the kid's interest. It also would provide a higher percentage chance of a clean/ethical shot for them if a deer came in that they wanted to harvest.

Please consider supporting this bill with your vote. The science, the numbers, or the common sense are not there to oppose, along with the loss of hunting interest we are creating for our future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.