

Dear members of the Senate Agriculture and Veteran Affairs Committee, I am writing in opposition to Senate Bill 2137.

As an avid sportsman in ND, I have hunter deer for the last 50 years. Management of North Dakota's publicly owned deer herd needs to remain in the hands of the professionals of the ND Game and Fish Department. North Dakota's wildlife needs to be managed using science-based information, which the NDGFD does quite well. SB 2137 will remove an important deer management tool from the deer management toolbox.

SB 2137 would set precedent and, if passed, would take the decision of managing our public resources out of the hands of the NDGFD. Wildlife is not private property but is a public resource. These public resources need to be managed using science-based information and decision making for the good of the wildlife community, not just the convenience of hunters.

Please vote no on SB 2137.