

01/16/2025

Written testimony in support of SB 2137

Dear Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee members,

I am writing to you today to show my support for SB 2137 which would not allow the department to adopt a rule or implement policy that would prohibit or restrict the use of supplemental feed on private property for hunting a big game animal.

I was born and raised in ND and now that I live on the other side of a river, I still call my self a North Dakotan.

In my lifetime I have seen the continuing decline of habitat for the deer population. Shelter belts that used to decorate our plans are no longer there. The CRP acres seem to be disappearing, and more and more land looks black in the fall. Two years ago, we had an unprecedented winter that destroyed not only the deer population but also has taken away the sport too many. I have herd many that say they have given up on the sport of hunting as it takes just too long to get a license now.

When we see winters like we did 2 years ago is there anything wrong with sportsman feeding deer that would otherwise die to starvation. I will guarantee that more deer were lost in ND due to the amount of snow than did from CWD.

I know I personally did all I could to feed the deer where I saw them that winter. This included putting out hay bales and feeding corn. I feel good that I know some of the deer that I supported made it through that tough winter.

If we take away feeding you will end efforts from sportsmen like my self and others that doo all they can to support the population not only for hunting my self but for the future of the sport for my sons and hopefully there kids as well.

I urge you to support for SB 2137 for future generations of sportsmen and women.

David Thingvold

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Thingvold", written in a cursive style.