

Dear Mr. Chairman & Members of the Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee:

My name is Wade Williamson and I reside in Parshall, ND. I am a retired farmer and have hunted my entire life. I've also spent many thousands of dollars every year in maintenance of wildlife and creation of habitat. I ask you to support Senate Bill 2137.

Some of the reasons that I ask you support of this bill are:

1. The NDGF cannot prove that baiting of deer contributes to the spread of CWD. It is their assumption!
2. If baiting is so bad, why do they still allow feeding of wildlife and support food plots?
3. It is impossible to keep deer from congregating, they do it naturally every year.
4. Most of the CWD is in the mule deer herd and they do not respond to bait.
5. In most areas of North Dakota whitetail hunting with archery equipment is almost impossible without bait.
6. By eliminating baiting on private land you almost make it impossible for older hunters or physically challenged hunters to be able to hunt with any degree of success.
7. As a landowner who loves wildlife and dedicates a lot of time and money to their maintenance I really take offense to the NDGF telling me what I can do on my own land! Believe me, that if I thought baiting caused or spread CWD I would not support this bill. I still support that the NDGF can determine what they want on public land.
8. This bill had tremendous support in the House last year but I believe because of some political shenanigans by the Governor and the Director of the NDGF it was killed in the Senate.
9. Please look through the smoke and ask about CWD funding as I believe this issue has a lot to do with money and therefore becomes political.

Thank you for your consideration and please support Senate Bill 2137.

Wade F. Williamson