

Matthew Gross  
Dickinson, ND, 58601  
01-21-24

Members of the North Dakota Senate - Energy and Natural Resource Committee

Dear Members of the Senate,

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 2168 in its current form. While I understand the intent behind the bill to enhance safety, I believe this legislation could have unintended consequences that may negatively impact both hunters and property owners. In its current form SB 2168 would allow an unoccupied or dilapidated old farmstead to reduce reduce the amount of huntable lands available to sportsmen and women in North Dakota. I support keeping the old working emphasizing no restrictions on unoccupied buildings.

Hunting is a deeply rooted tradition in North Dakota, and many hunters follow strict safety protocols to avoid risks. Limiting hunting areas without clear criteria could unnecessarily restrict access to vast, open lands that are not in close proximity to occupied structures. Additionally, the bill could have a significant impact on local economies and communities that depend on hunting-related activities.

I urge you to reconsider this legislation, taking into account both public safety and the rights of responsible hunters who prioritize safety and conservation.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Matthew Gross