

Testimony of Rita Goettle
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
2-6-25

Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. My name is Rita Goettle. I'm speaking today in favor of senate bill 2309.

I have been hunting for the past 2 years with a youth tag. Yet I still have not gotten my first deer. Why is that? Because I have only ever seen about 3 whitetails and they're either too far away for me to shoot or I'm just not in the right spot.

But where I hunt with my dad there are lots of mule deer. Like a lot!! And if I had a tag that allowed me to shoot a mullie, I would have gotten one my first year, and again this year. I've even had one lined up in my scope ready to shoot but just not able to pull the trigger. Multiple times! We were practicing of course so I would know what to do in case I saw a whitetail. But that never happened.

I have learned a lot in the youth hunt, and even saw my dad shoot a deer! A mullie deer, not a whitetail. He also shot buck this year, a mullie buck, not a whitetail buck. But I believe I could have learned more and had a better experience if I could have hunted mullie antlerless as well as whitetail antlerless.

I urge this committee to vote do pass on this bill. And I will be happy to answer any questions. Thank you.