

I strongly support SCR 4006. This bill is very important for federal protection of the Theodore Roosevelt wild horses in North Dakota. I ask the sixty- ninth legislative assembly to urge congress to enact legislation establishing federal protection of the Theodore Roosevelt wild horses of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park to ensure the long-term health and preservation of these wild horses. This herd needs to be protected for generations to come.

Bill SCR 4006 is very important and should pass, so the wild horses in Theodore Roosevelt National Park are enjoyed by North Dakotans and other Americans all over the states. I really enjoy hearing about all the wild horses in Theodore Roosevelt national park. I like to hear about how the wild horses are doing. It is neat to hear about the new foals and how the older horses are doing. I watch these horses, stories on the internet. I know that many horse lovers follow their story.

I also am planning to come see the Theodore Roosevelt wild horses in a couple of years. When I do, I will spend money in North Dakota. These wild horses bring a lot of tourists to North Dakota and lots of tourist dollars to the state. Many people want to come see these historical horses in the park. These wild horses are followed all across the country. They bring out Teddy Roosevelt's legacy. In fact, in 1970 the park recognized the wild horses in the park as historical.

Unfortunately, the park has not wanted to protect the wild horses in Theodore Roosevelt national park. They have done numerous gathers of this herd which is too bad. They wanted to remove these beautiful horses, until chasing wild horses and other horse groups stood up for these wild horses. Luckily the park agreed to let the wild horses stay in the park. The question would be how long? That is why, SCE 4006 federal protection for Theodore Roosevelt wild horses needs to be passed.

The park has agreed to let the wild horses stay but they are slowly exterminating them. They are using fertility drugs such as Gonacon. If Gonacon continues to be used on this herd, they will slowly die out. That would be very unfortunate, This herd dates back to the 1800's, days of Teddy Roosevelt. They are historical and are part of America. They are the only wild horses in North Dakota. Many historians believe they are descendants of Sitting Bull's horses and related to the rare Nakota breed. They need to be protected and enjoyed in the future.

With passing SCR 4006 these wild horses will have federal protection. Then the park service will have to listen to the community. Gonacon use needs to be stopped. The park service has also put radio collars on some of these horses. These collars are dangerous to the horses and need to be removed. The park service already has data on what they need to know. The collars are not necessary and with Passing of federal protection, will be removed. That is what is best for the horses.

Please pass SCR 4006 and keep Theodore Roosevelt Park a great destination with wild horses in it.

Thank you for your consideration.

For the wild ones

Rebecca Falk