

To the North Dakota State Legislature, I am writing to express my support for SCR 4006 A Resolution which calls on Congress to protect the historic wild horses of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

These iconic horses are integral to American history and the identity of the American West. They symbolize President Roosevelt's strong legacy of conservation and embody the untamed spirit of the American West. Protecting them honors the park's namesake and his contributions to the preservation of American Public Lands.

Unlike other wild horse herds, TRNP's horses are not covered under the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. Without protection, they can be removed at any time.

Wild Horses boost North Dakota's Economy. These horses are a major tourism draw, bringing visitors and their dollars to Medora and the surrounding areas. As an out-of-state resident & horse advocate/lover, I can attest to this and the ability to view wild herds in their natural habitats makes TRNP a must-visit for me, and is one of my top destinations within the US to visit so I can see these majestic creatures. Their removal would decrease tourism to the state and could negatively impact local businesses and jobs. Americans in North Dakota and across the country overwhelmingly support the protection of wild horses and want the TRNP herd to be protected. SCR 4006 will encourage the U.S. Congress to recognize and act on this broad support by passing federal legislation that ensures the TRNP wild horses are protected today and for future generations to come.

I strongly urge the North Dakota Legislature to pass SCR 4006 to stand up for TRNP's wild horses. Their strength, beauty, and resilience represent everything it means to be an American. They represent freedom and are living testaments to the American West. Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and submit this testimony in favor of protecting the wild herds of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Sincerely,
Alana Dowden