



Dear Committee Members,

We strongly support SB 2331 and recommend a **“Do Pass with Amendment.”**

We are Wild Lands Wild Horses, a nonprofit organization located in New Jersey, and the creators of the upcoming documentary on the historic horses of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. For over a decade, we have extensively documented this herd, witnessing firsthand how deeply they are woven into North Dakota’s history. Their presence not only enriches the state’s heritage but also draws visitors, ourselves included—back time and time again.

SB 2331’s working group can assist North Dakota’s constituents in providing a much-needed voice in preserving the future of the historical herd of horses in Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

However, we ask you to amend the following section:

Section 22G: *One representative of any nonprofit group located in the state which is established to protect the horses in the Theodore Roosevelt national park, appointed by the governor;*

To the following:

Section 22G: *One representative from nonprofit groups located in the state which are established to protect the horses in the Theodore Roosevelt national park, appointed by the governor;*

As written, the bill limits representation to a single ND group, which risks narrowing the advisory group’s perspectives. Research and discussions with other welfare organizations, legislators, and animal welfare lawyers consistently highlight the need for at least two groups to ensure balanced oversight. Notably, the Colorado bill that served as a model for this legislation included multiple organizations, setting a precedent and emphasizing the importance of diverse representation.

We encourage you to consider including representatives from more than one nonprofit in this working group. Each group has different strengths, different skills and different ideas when it comes to this herd. More minds working collaboratively on behalf of the horses can only be advantageous to the animals and to the goals of the group. **North Dakota has the opportunity to lead the nation as an example of what wild horse management can aspire to be - humane and effective, and inclusive of all stakeholders.**

Thank you for your time,

Dana Zarrello, Chelsea Halat, Jamie Baldanza & Deb Lee Carson