MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M

ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

1154

Operator's Signature

10/2/03
Date

2003 HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES

HB 1154

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1154

House Natural Resources Committee

❑ Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 17, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	xx		0-2839
Committee Clerk Signature	*Erin Myer*		

Minutes:

Rep. Bellew: Introduced House Bill 1154 relating to the issuance of elk, moose, and big horn sheep hunting licenses. Introduced the bill on behalf of constituents requesting it. Because of an admitted lack of background in the issue he turned the bill over to constituents.

Kim Knatterud: Spoke out in support of HB 1154. Testified on the difficulty in drawing a big game license.

Chipper Farrell: Spoke out in Favor of HB 1154. Reiterated the difficulty in getting a license.

Rep. Nottestad: What happens to the new hunters attempting to receive a license if the point system takes over. Will there be any reason for a new hunter to apply.

Chipper Ferrell: I understand, there needs to be an incentive to apply for the tag.

Roger Rosvet: Testified as Deputy Director of the Game and Fish Department. **(See Attached Testimony).**

Harold Neameyer: Reiterated the new hunter issue.

Mike Donahue: Reiterated the new hunter issue.

Rep. Solberg motioned to recommend do not pass on HB 1154. The motion was seconded by **Rep. Keiser.**

The vote was 14 yes, 0 no, 0 absent. Rep. Solberg carried.

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO.

House   House Natural Resources   1154   Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass

Motion Made By Rep Solber   Seconded By Keiser

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jon O. Nelson	✓				
Vice-Chairman Todd Porter	✓				
Rep. Byron Clark	✓				
Rep. Duane DeKrey	✓				
Rep. David Drovdal	✓				
Rep. Lyle Hanson	✓				
Rep. Bob Hunskor	✓				
Rep. Dennis Johnson	✓				
Rep. George Keiser	✓				
Rep. Scott Kelsh	✓				
Rep. Frank Klein	✓				
Rep. Mike Norland	✓				
Rep. Darrell Nottestad	✓				
Rep. Dorvan Solberg	✓				

Total   (Yes) 14   No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Solberg

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 20, 2003 8:21 a.m.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1154: Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Nelson, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1154 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM   Page No. 1   HR-10-0744

2003 TESTIMONY

HB 1154

100 NORTH BISMARCK EXPRESSWAY   BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501-5095   PHONE 701-328-6300   FAX 701-328-6352

HB 1154
HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE
January 17, 2003

Moose, Elk and Bighorn Sheep hunting licenses in North Dakota are extremely desirable licenses. Last year the Department received 33,548 applications for a total of 302 licenses, 8,328 apps for 3 bighorn sheep licenses-12,114 apps for 182 elk licenses and 13,106 apps for 117 moose licenses. It becomes quite apparent that most people who apply for these licenses will never receive on in their lifetime.

Preference for Moose, Elk, and Sheep was discussed when we started the preference system for the other species. It was not adopted at that time because we did not believe it would improve the system. The Deer, Antelope, and Turkey weighted drawing system grew out of a fairness issue. It was not uncommon for an individual to get two or even more licenses for a highly desirable combination of species and unit while another person with the same application history did not draw any. The preference point system we now have is an attempt to alleviate or at least minimize this situation.

In the case of the Trophy Species, the permits are a once in a lifetime permit. This is in effect the ultimate preference system, once you get one, you never get another. The fairness issue, which is the basis for the preference system, does not exist.

Preference for the trophy species then becomes a philosophical issue. If we use the weighted drawing, we would reward people for applying in long consecutive strings. Given the rather long odds of drawing one of these licenses, it will take a lot of preference points to have a significant effect on your chances of drawing a license. In the long run, the effect would likely be to concentrate the licenses in the hands of older hunters because they would have the most preference points. It could also have the effect of virtually excluding anyone who happens to be young, just recently started hunting, or have recently moved to the state. So do you want reward those people who have applied year after year, or do you want everyone to be on an equal footing, young and old, long time residents and new arrivals.

The weighted drawing would likely have the effect of keeping people applying, once they have accumulated a number of preference points. It could also discourage new people from applying because the deck is stacked against them.

Keep in mind; the preference system would increase people's expectations as the number of preference points increases. This could result in increased dissatisfaction with the system because most people will still not draw one of the trophy licenses, even with the preference system in effect. In addition, you will have to deal with people who forgot to apply after accumulating 20 points and are unhappy because they have lost their points. There will also be disputes from people who claim to have more preference points than our records show. In order to verify this we would have to keep 20 to 30 years worth of applicant records.

The weighted preference point system does not dramatically increase an individual's chances of being drawn. It tends to concentrate the licenses in the groups with the most preference points. Let's look at an example, where we have 10,000 applicants applying for 100 licenses. Assume that 75% of the applicants apply year after year, while the other 25% apply in a hit and miss fashion. Also, assume that successful applicants are replaced each year by new applicants who do not apply consistently, so your applicant base remains constant at 10,000, and all successful applicants come from the group with preference points. This example also assumes a 1 to 1 relationship on the bonus points regardless of how many you have (the squaring we do in the other drawings is not practical in a situation where nearly everyone has a lot of points, the files become so large they are difficult to handle). This is a very simplistic example, but it illustrates how the preference system works and keeps the calculations simple.

YEAR 1

Applicants with zero points, $10000*1 = 10000$ drawing apps

Odds of drawing a license (drawing apps/licenses available)= $100/10,000 = .01$ (10 in 1,000)

YEAR 2
Applicants with zero points $2,600 \times 1 = 2,600$ drawing apps
Applicants with one point $7,400 \times 2 = 14,800$ drawing apps
                                         17,400 drawing apps
Chance to be drawn with 0 points $100/17,400 = .0057$ (6 in 1,000)
Chance to be drawn with 1 point $(100/17,400*2) = .0115$ (11 in 1,000)

YEAR 5
Applicants with zero points $3,000 \times 1 = 3,000$ drawing apps
Applicants with five points $7,000 \times 6 = 42,000$ drawing apps
                                         45,000 drawing apps

Chance to be drawn with zero points= $100/45,000 = .0022$ (2 in 1,000)
Chance to be drawn with five points = $(100/45,000)*6 = .0133$ (13 in 1,000)

YEAR 10

Applicants with zero points $3,500 \times 1 = 3,500$ drawing apps
Applicants with ten points $6,500 \times 11 = 71,500$ drawing apps
                                         75,000 drawing apps

Chance to be drawn with zero points= $100/75,000 = .0013$ (1 in 1,000)
Chance to be drawn with ten points = $(100/75,000)*11 = .0146$ (15 in 1,000)

YEAR 20

Applicants with zero points 4,500x1 =   4,500 drawing apps
Applicants with twenty points 5,500x21= 115,500 drawing apps
                                        120,000 drawing apps

Chance to be drawn with zero points= 100/120,000=.0008   (1 in 10,000)
Chance to be drawn with twenty points =(100/120,000)*21=.0174 (17 in 1,000)

The example illustrates that when you have a situation where a very small number of the applicants get licenses, a large number of applicants have a lot of preference points and the effect of the weighted drawing is not what you might expect. It results in a relatively small improvement in the odds of being drawn for those who have a lot of preference points and large reduction in the odds of those who have only a few preference points. The only real effect of bonus points in the Moose, Elk, and Sheep drawings would be to lock out new participants.
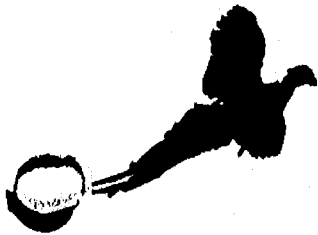
Cass County
WILDLIFE CLUB
Box 336
Casselton, ND 58012

TESTIMONY OF HAROLD NEAMEYER
CASS COUNTY WILDLIFE CLUB
PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE
ON HB 1154, JANUARY 17, 2003

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I am Harold Neameyer speaking on behalf of the Cass County Wildlife Club. The Cass County Wildlife Club is opposed to HB 1154. The bill, according to numerous people who have done the numbers, would do very little to improve a persons chances of being drawn, thus no benefit.

This bill would create an administrative nightmare for North Dakota Game and Fish to administer. The years of record keeping would negate any benefit that might occur.

The proposed preference system would further limit entry level and young adults from any possibility of a license.

The Cass County Wildlife club is opposed to HB 1154 and urges a DO NOT PASS vote.
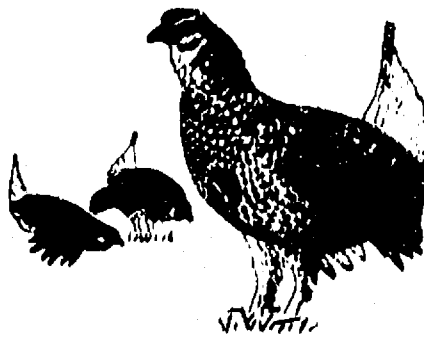
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1442 • BISMARCK, ND 58502

TESTIMONY OF BILL PFEIFER
NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE
ON HB 1154, JANUARY 17, 2003

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

I'm Bill Pfeifer speaking on behalf of the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society. The Wildlife Society opposes HB 1154.

A preference point system for the issuance of elk, moose, and bighorn sheep hunting licenses sounds great in theory but, in reality, will have very little benefit to the applicant of any of these licenses. In addition, it will create an administrative nightmare for the game and fish department to administer.

There are very few licenses issued in comparison to the applications received, the odds of success are very small. It may take many, many years for the poor odds to increase even a little. The record keeping could possibly involve 30 or 40 years and would result in volumes of records.

The present system is working well and would change little if HB 1154 was implemented, therefore, The Wildlife Society opposes the passage of HB 1154.

Dedicated to the wise use of all natural resources