



NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Testimony OF John Bradley Senate Bill 2143 House Energy and Natural Resources Committee March 5, 2021

Chairman Porter and members of the Committee:

For the record, I am John Bradley, Executive Director of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation. I am writing today representing our 1,500 members and 15 affiliated wildlife and sportsmen's club across North Dakota, one of which is the North Dakota Hunter Education Instructor Association.

We support the idea of trying to attract more women to hunting, and if allowing pink does increase recruitment that would be a positive outcome of this legislation.

Our primary concern with the bill is the allowance of "camo orange" and "camo pink" for big game hunting. By its very definition, "at least 50 percent fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink" is half of the legal requirement for 400 square inches of a highly visible color. Breaking the fluorescent color, either orange or pink, into smaller and camouflaged patches makes it more difficult to see. In low light or poor light conditions, camo-orange appears as brown. That is the very reason that current North Dakota big game hunting regulations do not allow camo-orange clothing.

We have also heard concerns from a few of our members who are colorblind and are not able to see fluorescent pink. Safety in the field is critically important to the Federation and probably the number one thing taught by our Hunter Ed instructors. We respectfully request that the Committee remove the camo-orange and camo-pink provisions of SB 2143 and investigate the concerns regarding colorblindness.

Thank you for your consideration of my recommendations.