



NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

TESTIMONY OF JOHN BRADLEY NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION SENATE BILL 2184 SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE JANUARY 21, 2021

Chairman Kreun, members of the Energy and Natural Resources 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, including the North Dakota Hunters Education Association.

NDWF rises in opposition to SB 2184. While we agree with the intent of SB 2184 to recognize and appreciate North Dakota's hunter education instructors, we oppose the bill for numerous reasons. The first reason is that our hunter education instructors are volunteers, who teach hunter's ed to pass on our outdoor heritage, not because they might get rewarded with a big game license.

Secondly, the resource would be extremely burdened trying to support the any legal deer or one of the big three licenses (elk, moose, bighorn sheep) after 5 years that is provided in this bill. North Dakota has hundreds of hunter education instructors, providing licenses to them would cut into the general public's opportunity to hunt deer, moose, elk, and bighorn in North Dakota and be a revenue loss to the Department.

We thank all the hunter education instructors for volunteering their time and energy. We believe there are better ways to say thank you than SB 2184. We urge a do not pass on SB 2184.

I will stand for any questions that the committee may have. Thank you.