

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

I am writing you today in opposition of HB 1151. I am an avid, lifelong outdoorswoman and huntress, involved in many local and national hunting- and conservation-oriented organizations.

I fear that HB 1151 is not what is best for North Dakota's deer population in the battle against the spread of CWD. Since the proposal of HB 1151, I fear that many sportsmen and women have become absorbed in the debate between baiting versus non-baiting of deer that we are nearly missing the underlying point. The passage of this bill would take control away from the ND Game and Fish Department, taking away their resources and ability to act on wildlife-related issues in our state. Today, the issue may be CWD and combating the spread. Tomorrow, there may be an entirely new and different issue facing North Dakota's deer (or other game) population. Passing HB 1151 only ties the hands of the Game and Fish Department and takes away their resources and ability to act on such issues.

I firmly believe in leaving it up to the trained professionals within the Game and Fish Department to take a scientific approach to decide what they feel is best for the future of our deer and wildlife for today, tomorrow, and years down the road. Therefore, I encourage you to oppose HB 1151.

Sincerely,

Courtney Jenner – Williston, 701-799-4049