

Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

As a lifelong resident, hunter, and landowner in North Dakota, I am writing testimony today in SUPPORT of HB 1151 for a couple of reasons.

The main benefit of hunting over bait, for me, relates to time spent in the woods with my wife, two young sons, father, and friends (many new to deer hunting). Being able to hunt over bait on private land allows us a greater opportunity to interact with nature on a more consistent basis. With the kids especially, it's very important to as many deer, bird, and squirrel encounters as possible to keep them interested and engaged. Since the ban on baiting in the unit I bow hunt, my time spent hunting with my family has decreased substantially do to loss of opportunity and interest.

Hunting over bait has been banned on various public and PLOTS lands before a positive CWD test existed in the state. With CWD testing of hunter-harvested deer they are now using an insignificant amount of positive tests to infringe on private landowner rights in the designation of "needing to do something."

The new wave of baiting ban regulation directly and inappropriately impacts private landowners and hunters, especially the youth, novel, and elderly.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope after hearing all sides of testimony you can recommend a DO PASS on HB1151.

Andy Tomanek

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