



Contact:
Matt Perdue, Lobbyist
mperdue@ndfu.org | 701.641.3303

**Testimony of
Matt Perdue
North Dakota Farmers Union
Before the
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
March 16, 2023**

Chairman Patten and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 1151. My name is Matt Perdue, and I am testifying on behalf of North Dakota Farmer Union's (NDFU) members.

NDFU supports HB 1151, which prohibits rules or policies that restrict landowners' ability to use baiting for lawful hunting. During our most recent annual convention, NDFU's members approved new policy that opposes the North Dakota Game and Fish "restricting baiting as a response to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)." Our members approved this policy due to skepticism around the effectiveness of baiting restrictions in slowing the spread of CWD and desire to protect private property rights. Without stronger evidence of baiting restrictions' effectiveness, our members do not believe a ban on baiting is the right response to CWD.

NDFU supports amendments to the bill to ensure baiting is allowed on a year-round basis and to eliminate subsection 3 of the bill. We believe these amendments bring the bill closer to its original intent and the intent of NDFU's policy.

Thank you for your consideration. We respectfully request a "Do Pass" recommendation on HB 1151.