



Chasing Horses Wild Horse Advocates
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Chairman Patten and Committee Members:

My name is Gary Kman. I am the co-founder and vice-president of Chasing Horses Wild Horse Advocates. We are a nonprofit organization based in Dickinson, ND that advocates for the wild horses in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 2331. I am asking that the committee give a "Do Pass" on this resolution.

Our organization, along with the State of North Dakota including our state and federal legislators have spent the last 3 years fighting for the wild horses of TRNP to remain IN the park.

Since the park has a clear history of trying to eliminate the wild horses from the park, and some very questionable management practices, we have worked with our legislators to draft SB 2331.

A working group to come together and work with the park to help manage the horses as well as provide much needed oversight to this park is greatly needed.

As our organization continues to work with Senator John Hoeven's office to secure federal protection, the state of North Dakota passing this resolution will help support CHWHA's tireless efforts.

We also know that no matter what anyone's personal feelings are on wild horses, one fact remains clear: These horses drive tourism in our state. A simple formula that I have shared with all of you as part of my testimony shows that the wild horses that currently call Theodore Roosevelt National Park home bring AT LEAST \$37 MILLION DOLLARS to North Dakota's economy EVERY SINGLE YEAR!

Since 2023, the Medora City Council passed 3 of their own resolutions asking that a viable and healthy herd of wild horses remain in TRNP. The Billings County Commission passed one of their own.

Since the entire state of North Dakota is on record asking for a healthy and genetically viable herd of wild horses to remain in Theodore Roosevelt National Park, it only makes sense that you pass SB 2331 and listen to what the people of North Dakota have asked.

Thank you for allowing my testimony and for all your hard work this session.

Gary Kman
Vice President
Chasing Horses Wild Horse Advocates
www.chwha.org