

Comment Report

Natural Resources

Date: 02/14/2022

Time: 04:00 PM

Location: RM 19

Name: Dr Jason Wick

Comment: I respectfully request the support of HSB 610. Herd management, disease , and crop damage should not fall solely on the shoulders of farmers and RLOs. This is issue should be shared by NRLOs and RLOs alike to manage Iowas conservation goals and future. The minimum acreage parameter, 10 year ownership, and habitat investment requirements appear adequate. Thanks

Name: Matt Eggers

Comment: HSB 610This bill sets aside deer tags for nonresident landowners. It is bad for wildlife and residents of Iowa. Wildlife are held in trust for citizens of the state. Landowners, resident or nonresident, have no additional rights to a deer tag than anyone else. Nonresidents know the rules for obtaining deer tags when they purchase land in Iowa. They purchase land, then try to change the rules, to the detriment of residents of the state of Iowa. My understanding is part of the concern that caused this bill is antihunters buying land in Iowa. I and others have asked for any sort of proof of this and to date none has been provided. This is absolutely a slippery slope. The bill currently requires a landowner to have owned the land for 10 years. The next step will be to reduce that number until it is zero. Passage of this bill will cause lots of nonresident hunters with deep pockets to purchase land here because tags will be easier for them to get. And they will see the writing on the wall tags will continually get easier for nonresident landowners to obtain once we open this door. Land prices and hunting land value will skyrocket. This will price out Iowa residents, resulting in significant loss of access for residents. This will make hunting and recreation land access for Iowans more difficult to obtain. My understanding is the 500 tags for nonresident landowners proposed in this bill is in addition to the nonresident tags already allotted. Iowa has a great tradition of high quality deer hunting. Most of Iowa has marginal deer habitat. An increased harvest and an increase in pressure will negatively impact our deer herd. This will reduce the quality of the experience here, again to the detriment mostly of Iowa residents.I understand the bill include provisions requiring nonresident landowners to allow resident access. Our DNR is already a skeleton crew. The same people supporting this bill, with all the stipulations, refuse to fund the DNR to sufficiently investigate and enforce already written laws. I have serious doubts about how these stipulations could even be monitored, let alone enforced. Im also very skeptical the next step will not be to eliminate these provisions all together.Deer hunting in Iowa is better than anywhere in the country. These changes will negatively impact our deer herd and the hunting experience for residents. I ask that you vote against this bill.I am asking that you do the right thing for Iowans and vote against this and other bills you are likely to see this session that harm our wildlife and harm Iowans.

Name: Dr. Amie Hornaman

Comment: Please support HSB 610. My husband and I have owned property in Iowa for 20 years. In recent years weve noticed too many deer and disease due to inability to take does. At present we can shoot one doe each and do permit 2 resident hunters on our farm who take one doe a piece. This isnt nearly enough when we were seeing 40 to 60 deer each every day. The requirements to apply for these tags should this bill pass should deter the perceived land rush voiced by opponents of this legislation. Minus

this ability NRLO properties are becoming deer sanctuaries that exacerbate disease and crop damage. If over population is not managed nature will take its course through EHD and CWD. NRLOs are willing to play their part, we need the ability.