

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

1325

2007 HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES

HB 1325

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HB 1325

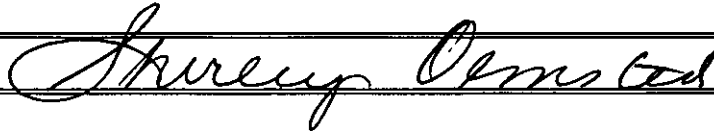
House Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 25, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 1896

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Porter opened the hearing on HB 1325.

Representative Bill Amerman presented the HB 1325. See written testimony marked as Item #1.

Representative Meyer asked that every time you come back, do you have to buy a new license to cover the 14 day period. Does the one license cover the 14 day period?

Representative Amerman said the one license would cover the one day period.

Representative Charging asked if they ever considered restructuring the current license and offering the three day.

Representative Amerman said this for pheasant and small game aspect of hunting.

Representative Hunskor said he had a concern for the saturation of the pheasant areas of our state with resident and non-resident hunters for 4 weekends in a row. Doesn't that create saturation?

Representative Amerman said he does not see that as a problem but anything is possible.

The weather patterns go in cycles so it is possible that we may have a heavy winter and lose our pheasant population. I hope not, but I guess anything is possible.

Chairman Porter said that they had changed this law 4 years ago and tweaked it last session to go from 10 days to 14 days which went from two 5 day periods to two 7 days periods.

Game and fish is showing record numbers of non-resident license sales. I guess I am not catching where the problem is.

Representative Amerman said he was not sure if there is a problem. He also said he is not sure what is included in the record numbers of non-resident licenses that are being sold. He knows that there are large numbers of geese and ducks being taken by non-resident hunters, but there certainly are great numbers of pheasants in his area. This does not extend the number of days that they are hunting. It just gives them more opportunities to come.

Representative James Kerzman also supported HB 1325. He thinks this is a step in the right direction for non-resident hunters. He feels that this gives more opportunities for economic growth in the smaller communities. He has children that live out of state and they like to come home more times to hunt. This would not require them to purchase the second license when they haven't used all the days on the first license. He thinks the problem lies in the fact that not all hunters have the resources to purchase the second license.

John Dyste from Foreman, North Dakota gave testimony in support of HB 1325. He owns grocery stores in several towns that are located southeastern North Dakota. He is also president of the Foreman Hospitality LLC which own and operate a 21 unit hotel that was built in 2001. Hunting has saved their hotel and made it work. The traffic that they get at the grocery stores has also been improved by the hunters. He said that 29% of the total revenue in their hotel comes in October and November. Their guests come from all over the nation. A good share of their hunters comes from Minnesota. If they can bring in more out-of-state people later in the season, it will have a big effect on the economy of their communities. The

late season hunting is some of the best hunting. He does not feel this will hurt the ability of the local hunters.

Representative Hanson asked if any of his clients have taken out a second license.

Mr. Dyste said yes.

Representative Hanson said the second license is \$85.00.

Mr. Dyste said he thinks that even if they raised the price of the license to \$125.00 that would not be a problem if they had the ability to split the days and come back more times. He is trying to help rural North Dakota by bolstering the economy in the last few months of the year by business generated by non-resident hunters.

Representative Charging asked if he thought the two weeks was not enough time.

Mr. Dyste said that he hunts with a number of people from Minnesota and they can only come for a few days because of family or family commitments. He thought if they had the ability to split the weeks, they would come more often.

Mr. Greg Donaldson also supported this bill. He said he supported this bill and it was just not the economic impact to the community. He said a lot of people have family in Minnesota that comes home on a regular basis and this would allow them to hunt when they are home without buying the second license.

Mr. Travis A. Paeper, Bowman, North Dakota, and Sheriff of Sergeant Co, also supports this bill. He said it would be a huge economic improvement for the state. He also does not think the state will be taken over by non-resident hunters. The average resident hunter and non-resident hunter are spending about 5.8 or 6 days per year hunting. He thinks the bag limits are doing a disservice to the non-resident hunter.

Mr. Jim Redlin of Ellendale, North Dakota also supported the bill. He feels that it will again have an economic impact on the smaller communities in North Dakota.

Mr. Mike Donahue came forward in opposition of HB 1325. They feel that the current law is appropriate and they see the 14 day period is adequate.

Mr. Foster Hager came forward in opposition of HB 1325. See written testimony marked as Item #2.

Mr. Dennis Daniel also opposed HB 1325. He made a recommendation that non-resident hunters buy hunting bucks for a set amount and then can spend them while they are in North Dakota. In this case, the economy will still get the money without adding more non-resident hunters in the state.

Mr. Paul Schadewald from Game and Fish came forward at the request of Chairman Porter. **Chairman Porter** asked him if he could provide the number of hunters during the 10 day period compared to the number of hunters during the 14 day period. He was interested in what the change of days had done.

Mr. Schadewald said they have seen a steady increase in non-resident hunters over the past few years, regardless of what has been done with the days allowed for hunting. He had the information graphed in the office and would provide that to the committee.

Representative Hanson asked how many second licenses have been sold to non-resident hunters.

Mr. Schadewald said he thought it was something like 1200 in a year sold to non-resident hunters and about 758 purchased two, 78 purchased three, 16 purchased 4, and 2 purchased 6. There were a total of 1200 licenses involved.

Chairman Porter closed the hearing on HB 1325.

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HB 1325

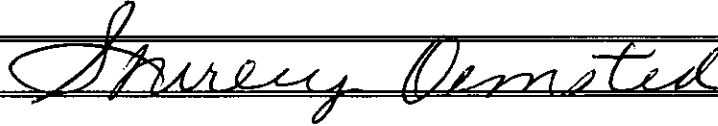
House Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 26, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 2062

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Porter opened the discussion on HB 1325.

Representative DeKrey moved for a do not pass.

Representative Drovdal seconded the motion.

Representative DeKrey said those of us that have been on this committee know how hard that we have worked to try to balance the interests on waterfowl and upland game. We finally got to a point where the anger is somewhat controlled and I do not want to open that door up again and start this process all over again. I think we are at a balance and I think we should stick with it.

Chairman Porter asked for further discussion. Hearing none, he asked the clerk to take the roll on a **do not pass for HB 1325**. Let the record show 12 yes and 2 no with no one absent.

Representative DeKrey will carry this bill to the floor.

FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 01/11/2007

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1325

1A. State fiscal effect: *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2005-2007 Biennium		2007-2009 Biennium		2009-2011 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues				(\$100,000)		(\$100,000)
Expenditures				\$3,000		
Appropriations						

1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect: *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2005-2007 Biennium			2007-2009 Biennium			2009-2011 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2A. Bill and fiscal impact summary: *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

Nonresident small game hunters now get two 7 day periods to hunt with each license. They may purchase multiple licenses. With this bill they would still have 14 days to hunt, but could split the license into 4 segments of 3 or more days. Nonresidents could hunt up to 4 weekends using one license.

B. Fiscal impact sections: *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

About 1200 nonresident small game license holders purchase more than one small game license per year. Allowing splitting the 14 days into more than two segments will probably reduce total sales of these licenses by about 600 licenses. At \$85 per license, this will reduce revenue by about \$50,000 per year.

3. State fiscal effect detail: *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

A. Revenues: *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

It is estimated that there will be a revenue reduction of about \$100,000 per biennium for the game and fish fund if this change is made.

B. Expenditures: *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

It is estimated that it will cost about \$3,000 to modify the licensing computer system for this change.

C. Appropriations: *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

Name:	Paul T. Schadewald	Agency:	ND Game and Fish Department
Phone Number:	328-6328	Date Prepared:	01/12/2007

Date: 1-26-05
Roll Call Vote #: _____

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1325

House Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do NOT Pass

Motion Made By DeKrey Seconded By Drovdal

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman - Rep. Porter	✓		Rep. Hanson	✓	
Vice-Chairman - Rep Damschen	✓		Rep. Hunskor	✓	
Rep. Charging		✓	Rep. Kelsh	✓	
Rep. Clark	✓		Rep. Meyer		✓
Rep. DeKrey	✓		Rep. Solberg	✓	
Rep. Drovdal	✓				
Rep. Hofstad	✓				
Rep. Keiser	✓				
Rep. Nottestad	✓				

Total Yes 12 No 2

Absent 0

Floor Assignment DeKrey

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Do not pass

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 26, 2007 1:31 p.m.

Module No: HR-18-1359
Carrier: DeKrey
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1325: Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Porter, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS (12 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1325 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2007 TESTIMONY

HB 1325

Item #1

CHAIRMAN PORTER
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL 1325 IS AN IDEA THAT WAS BROUGHT TO ME BY SOME FRIENDS BACK HOME. IT IS A GOOD IDEA AND I WISH I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF IT.

THESE FRIENDS ARE FARMERS AND HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS WHO LIVE IN MINN. THESE FAMILY MEMBERS STILL LOVE TO COME HOME AND HUNT PHEASANTS. HOWEVER THE CURRENT LAW IS VERY PROHIBITED IN ALLOWING THEM TO DO SO. THEY HAVE TO HUNT A STRAIGHT 14 DAY PERIOD OR 2 7 DAY PERIODS. THIS ONLY ALLOWS THEM 2 TIMES TO COME HOME TO HUNT. MOST OF THE TIME THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO USE ALL 7 DAYS BECAUSE OF WORK AND OTHER COMMITMENTS. ALSO THEY HAVE PROBABLY ALREADY USED VACATION DAYS IN THE SUMMER WITH THERE OWN FAMILIES.

THIS BILL WILL ALLOW THEM TO HUNT ON MORE OCCASIONS AND FOR SHORTER PERIODS OF TIME. THE BILL DOESN'T ALLOW ANY MORE DAYS, IT IS STILL ONLY 14 DAYS AND THE LIMIT IS THE SAME.

ANOTHER BENEFIT TO THIS BILL IS THE ECONOMIC PLUS FOR SMALL RURAL COMMUNITIES. THIS BILL HAS THE POTENTIAL OF BRINGING ENORMOUS AMOUNTS OF MONEY TO BUISNESSES IN SMALL COMMUNITIES. THERE ARE A LOT OF RURAL BUISNESSES WHO DEPEND ON THIS RUSH OF BUISNESS DURING THE FALL HUNTING SEASON, FOR SOME IT COULD MAKE OR BREAK THERE YEAR.

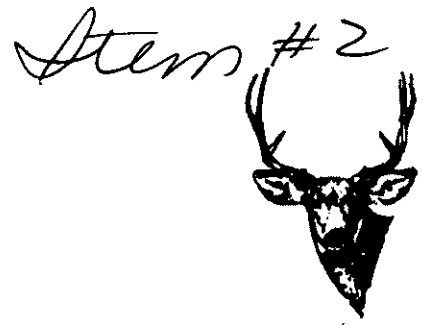
I'VE LIVED IN RURAL N.D. MY WHOLE LIFE AND I'VE HUNTED EVERY YEAR SINCE I WAS ABLE TO. THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL HUNTERS IN MY AREA WHETHER THEY BE FROM OUT OF STATE, LOCAL OR FROM OUR MAJOR CITIES. THE LAND OWNERS ARE FRIENDLY AND VERY ACCOMODATING TOWARDS HUNTERS. THIS IS BECAUSE THEY KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THEY ARE TO OUR SMALL COMMUNITIES

THIS CONCLUDES MY TESTIMONY AND I HOPE YOU CAN SUPPORT HB1325 FOR THE GOOD OF ALL N.DAK. THANK YOU



Cass County
WILDLIFE CLUB

Box 336
Casselton, ND 58012



TESTIMONY OF FOSTER HAGER
CASS COUNTY WILDLIFE CLUB
PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
ON

HB 1325
January 25, 2007

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The CCWC is opposed to this bill because we feel it will hurt the small motel industry plus many other small businesses.

Many non-residents will come four weekends, spend one night in a motel every weekend, instead of several nights.

This bill appears to benefit non-residents that live in states that border North Dakota.

This bill also will increase the number of birds they may take compared to possession in a 14 day season.

