
Hanson Whitetails

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Committee Administrator Joel Hanson

MN Senate Agriculture, Rural Development, and Housing Policy Committee

Dear Committee Members,

First, thank you for your service and representation on behalf of the citizens of Minnesota. My husband and I, along with our children (now 6 children), have been deer farming since the summer of 2017. Though there are opportunities for occasional income from antler products and selling a deer for meat, our primary deer farming income is from the sale of trophy bucks to a deer preserve in Minnesota. We are one of a number of deer farms that help supply needed bucks for the preserve's hunts.

The DNR-imposed bans on deer movement have added significant stress and uncertainty regarding the sustainability and longevity of this much-loved business, hobby, and ministry. The most recent ban halted our planned sale of the one mature buck that we had available to sell, and would have resulted in our farm losing quite a bit of money. Thankfully we were able to sell the buck to the deer preserve quickly once the ban was rescinded, and purchase a much-needed 2nd vehicle for our family.

We have continued to breed and care for our deer, not knowing what will take place with the opposition to deer farms. Please consider the people, families, and businesses that have been hurt as you discuss compensation bill SF 3854.

Sincerely,

Kendra Hanson