

To: Committee Clerk Molly Wingrove

Re: Input for 1/27/22 meeting of House Natural Resources & Outdoor Recreation Committee

I urge the Committee to vote NO on SCR7, a joint resolution urging the NRC to organize a wolf hunting and trapping season.

*I am a UP resident and outdoor enthusiast who supports the natural course of preserving our meager wolf population. I am a fan of hiking and snowshoeing and have never been bothered by a wolf. During my excursions I have, however, seen many deer along with other small wildlife.

*Every hunter that I know personally, was able to harvest a deer the last several years with proper preparation in both rifle and bow seasons.

*Please keep in mind, that in the last decade, Michigan voters overwhelmingly voted twice against hunting and trapping Michigan's wolves.

*Michigan's wolf population has remained stable over the past several years. Public outcry against wolves is largely based on politics and spread of rumors and misinformation, as well as lack of education which should have been/should be provided by the MI DNR. These are loving, family-oriented, intelligent creatures which are vital to every eco system. A lot of money was spent to reintroduce this vital species which still hovers on the edge of extinction.

*Please review the scientific research on wolves and disease. It has shown that wolves may help to keep CWD from spreading through the deer population by taking the sickly. In addition, with deer now showing evidence of being able to carry covid, this is not the time to eliminate a natural predator.

*One of the main causes of deer fatalities is deer/auto collision. The second cause is often starvation as the deer population in the UP is high for the winter resources available.

Thank you for your time and attention,

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