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Chair Howell & Members Of the HNR & OR Committee ,

I am writing you today to express my ardent support of SCR7. It was eleven months ago that I made the trip down from the NW U.P. to testify before the the SSNRC in support of this proposal when Senator McBroom first introduced it. Though present circumstances preclude me from traveling to Lansing to support this proposal once more in person, make no mistake that my support has not wavered.

I would like to point out for the consideration of this body the fact that the wolf management plan has historically been neglected, put on a back burner, and frankly only used as a political shield when pressure to manage the wolf intensifies. The wolf was officially documented as breeding and reestablishing a foothold in 1991, but it wasn't until six years later in 1997 that the first wolf management plan was created. The proverbial cart was clearly ahead of the horse. That wolf management plan would be left untouched for 11 years until once more in 2008 it was updated as public unrest began to mount. Five years later in 2013 Michigan would have a wolf management hunt. It was a short 45 day season for which 1,200 tags were sold in which only 23 wolves were taken. Many upper peninsula residents saw this not as management but as pacification and a money grab. Seasoned outdoorsmen being aware that trapping which was excluded is by far the best way to harvest wolves. Two years later in 2015 the wolf management plan would be revised once again. A seven year span since it was previously updated. Which brings us to present day 2022 where the wolf management plan is once more being revised...7 years after the last time. As I am aware the wolf management plan has a sunset of five years. Yet has been routinely allowed to go out of date...conveniently being revisited it seems only when public pressure come to bear. While I am keenly aware that the wolf has a checkered past of going on and off the ESL, that is not an excuse for the wolf management plan being left to languish and fall out of compliance. Had the wolf management plan been kept up to date Michigan would stand ready to manage the wolf when it has come off of the ESL instead of spending another entire year hand wringing, debating, and arguing in endless circles of politized science and

bureaucratic misdirection in a committee of appointed laymen...and ultimately not installing proper sound scientific management measures in a timely and efficient manner so as to facilitate the maximum benefit for the species, for the ecosystem, for the hunters and trappers, and ultimately for the state of Michigan. This failure ultimately falls squarely on the shoulders of the NRC and the DNR Director.

While I am in adamant support of due process and complete review of the best available sound scientific evidence pertaining to wolf management. It is clear that wolves have not only met the recovery goals but far exceeded them for some time. There is no scientific debate left to be had as to if we should manage them. The data is clear. We can, and we should. Naysayers argue that there is a rush to judgement, that blood thirsty hunters and trappers are facilitating a mistrial of the wolf. The precedent here is clear. Regulations pertaining to the whitetail deer in Michigan generally revolve on a three year cycle. We do not stop deer season on the 3rd year and convene a deer advisory committee and spend an entire year debating how we should alter management policy...no...we continue to hunt them and policy evolves on an as needed basis. There is no reason that we cannot manage the wolf in precisely the same manner.

I need not remind this body of the public outcry on the issue of wolf management. I need not remind this body of the impacts the wolf has had on our game species, on our farms, on our pets, indeed on our very way of life. The data and the science are clear, the choices to be made are clear, and the voice of the people has been clear. The people of the upper peninsula look to you to do what is right in this matter.

As a man who's spent 28 seasons hunting the remotest parts of the upper peninsula and years enjoying our beautiful wilderness in God's country with my wife and our four sons, I am asking you today to vote unanimously in support of SCR7. Though I speak only for myself in this letter, I assure you Representatives...thousands stand with me in my plea to you today. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards, Jordan Hoover