

Good afternoon / morning.

My name is Ed Beckley I own the M65 bait shop in Whittemore mi. and au gres Michigan. I am here on the concern of the loss of my family business that has been around since 1983, the majority of our fall hunting business is deer feed and minerals. With the loss of feeding and baiting deer in the state of Michigan, I am going to loose a big part of my sales. I would be surprised if I can survive another three years, my gross sales from my two store is around a 195,000 dollars. Deer feed last year was around 70,000 in sales, minerals were around 15,000, this is going to drop my operational dollars to approximately 110,000 dollars, I will most likely have to close one of my stores down this year because of this loss, and the other we will ride out as long as we can. There has been a decline in other sales to , including archery equipment and trail cameras, not only is this going to effect me but also all the restaurant's, motels and gas stations in my area. I have talked to a lot of hunters that say they will no longer hunt in Michigan and spend there money in other states like ohio and Nebraska, I expect at least a 30 percent down fall of hunting license sales for the state of Michigan in the coming deer season. This is a big decline in an over 10 billion dollar industry for the state. All over the natural resource commissions knee jerk reaction to CWD. We are doing the same thing here that they did in Wisconsin and it was a failed program there. The DNR are still baiting to cull the deer in areas that they want more deer tested in, but yet they tell the hunters of this state that baiting will cause disease to spread yet they still do it. I personally think we are taking the wrong approach on this at the expense of the hunting heritage in the state of Michigan and the small business owners that rely on hunting to keep their doors open. Please consider hb4687 it will save the deer hunting industry in the state of Michigan.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

ED 989-324-7111  
Edna 989-305-5075

Baiting and Minerals  
spread deer out more  
than congregate them