

MEMORANDUM

FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE KEN HELM

TO: CHAIR WITT AND MEMBERS OF THE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FROM: REPRESENTATIVE KEN HELM

DATE: February 4, 2015

RE: Proposed Amendments to HB 2537

Prior to the beginning of the 2015 Legislative session I shared the Legislative Concept for HB 2537 with a number of interested individuals and groups. The feedback from those conversations demonstrated that HB 2537 would be strengthened by the addition of the following FRIENDLY amendments:

- Add Greater Sage Grouse as a species for protection parallel to wild turkeys – which would incur a \$100 fine if illegally taken. Section 1, subsection 2(a)(N).
- Specifically call out penalties for taking Mule Deer for a \$5000.00 penalty. Section 1, subsection 2(a)(A)
- Add an additional and cumulative penalty for illegally taking a game mammal that has been fitted with a tracking collar by ODFW or USFW - \$5000.00.
- Illegal take of a game mammal clarified to include unlawful trapping.
- Illegal take of a pregnant female game mammal, or illegal take of a female mother of a yearling or younger offspring will be subject to an additional civil fine and criminal penalty. Section 3, subsection 9. \$5000.00 and Class C Felony.
- Add a provision suspending the license of a person who illegally takes a game animal upon the second conviction for violation of the statute. Section 3, subsection 9.

I will be available at the February 5, 2015 hearing on HB 2537 to answer any questions you might have.