



Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is _____.

I oppose SB162.

Amending the law to restrict Commission authority circumvents the current Tentative process which provides a check and balance in Montana's wildlife management process. The FWP Commission is an objective citizen body representing the broad interests of the public. The Tentative process allows all perspectives to be considered equally, including biological, social, and economic factors. I may not agree with every decision made by the Commission, but acknowledge and support their ability to balance different and broad perspectives. In addition, placing restrictions on the Commission's authority ultimately limits the Department's ability to manage specific biologic conditions such as yearly population fluctuations. I urge you to table this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,