Public Comments on H.190 March 26-29, 2019

Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:11 PM

To: lbozarth@leg.state.vt
Subject: H 190 Support

I hope there will be a hearing and H 190 will be brought to a vote. The FWB needs significant changes made in it's structure and this bill will help to do that. Currently, the only voices heard are hunting special interests. All voices need to be heard to protect wildlife, not just hunting special interest groups. I think this bill is a step in the right direction to create the necessary structural and foundational changes necessary.

Toby Powers & Nilton Costa

Winooski VT

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:27 PM

To: Laura Bozarth <LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>; Amy Sheldon <ASheldon@leg.state.vt.us>

Cc: Patricia McCoy < PMcCoy@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: H. 190

Natural Resource, Fish, and Wildlife Committee.

Please oppose bill H.190 when it is next visited.

As a 31 year old Vermont raised consulting forester and B.S. in Forestry graduate who has spent the last 10 years working 4 days a week in privately owned Vermont forests, I believe in the need to place trust in the professional opinions of our professionals at the Department of Fish and Wildlife when it comes to hunting, trapping, and fishing policy. They have done and continue to do excellent work.

My understanding is that the department is opposed to bill H.190. We trust our professionals in other sciences when it comes to combating climate change, improving water quality, managing our forests, medicine, technology, why not wildlife management?

Holding the Department hostage to avowed anti-hunters and anti-trappers, as H.190 would do, will mostly harm the wildlife of our state, along with our fields, forests, and villages which are greatly affected by wildlife population dynamics.

Thank you!

Steve Handfield

Poultney Vermont

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:59 PM

To: Laura Bozarth < LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us > Cc: Amy Sheldon < ASheldon@leg.state.vt.us >

Subject: H 190

Please hold a hearing for bill H 190. A well balanced and moderate Fish and Wildlife Board which represents all views and and standpoints is long overdue in Vermont. Please hold a hearing to move this legislation forward today!

Thank you

Toby Powers & Nilton Costa

Winooski VT

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 11:58 AM **To:** Laura Bozarth < LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us>

Subject: H.190 Reform Fish and Wildlife Management

Hello Laura,

Please consider holding a hearing on H.190 in the future .This bill has many positive solutions and ideas on how the state can make a difference in managing our Fish and Wildlife I would like to see diversity on the Fish and Wildlife Board so different options might be offered. There are plenty of citizens that have knowledge about managing wildlife so it is sustainable and would want to work with those that hunt and fish. A balance is needed for the future of Vermont.

Thank you for your consideration,

Maggie Wilkinson

Dummerston, VT

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:25 AM
To: Laura Bozarth < LBozarth@leg.state.vt.us >
Subject: Please Hold a Hearing for H.190

Dear Ms. Bozarth,

I'm writing you today to ask that the Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife Committee hold a hearing for Bill H.190. As you are no doubt aware, H.190 would, through the formation of a Working Group on Wildlife Governance, reform the Board member selection process such that the appointed Board members would more fairly reflect the diverse and changing makeup and interests of the people of Vermont. As it stands now, the Board membership is comprised entirely of people who fish, hunt, and trap and Governor Scott has recently appointed three new members in a process which is anything but transparent. I have read an account of a wildlife rehabilitator who applied for Board membership and never even received the courtesy of a reply. The secretive nature of Board member selection and the obvious bias that results must be addressed and H.190 will move rules and procedures in that direction.

Thank you for your public service and for considering my plea.

Respectfully,

Richard Fitzhenry

Hyde Park