

Senator LaFountain, Representative Landry and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee,

I am Rick Wotton, and am testifying in favor of LD 2194, "An Act to Clarify When a Wounded Game Animal May Be Dispatched by an Authorized Licensed Guide," .

A case this past fall, brought to light the fact the current wording of Title 12, allowing guides to dispatch mortally wounded big game, allows them to do so **ONLY** after legal hunting hours.

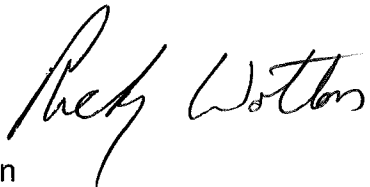
I have been held the understanding that guides have the ability to dispatch wounded game under certain situations. This is something that our local wardens also supported until a recent case brought to light the actual wording of the law.

There are many more opportunities requiring a guide to dispatch, during legal hunting hours than those that occur after legal hours.

This is a matter of ethics and safety. I urge you to vote ought to pass on LD 2194 to clarify when a wounded game animal may be dispatched by an authorized guide.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick Wotton". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Rick Wotton".

Rick Wotton