



## QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Date: 2 February 2018  
To: Resources and Conservation Committee  
From: Kip Adams, Director of Conservation  
Re: House Bill 356

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On behalf of the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) I am writing to state our support for House Bill 356 which would provide protections from recreational liability to parties, such as the Department of Fish and Game, who fund, maintain, improve, or hold conservation easement on lands made available for public recreational use without direct charge to individuals for access. The QDMA is a national nonprofit wildlife conservation organization dedicated to ensuring the future of white-tailed deer, wildlife habitat and our hunting heritage. The QDMA has over 60,000 members nationwide and our membership includes hunters, landowners and natural resource professionals.

Idaho landowners routinely provide access to their properties for hunting, wildlife viewing, and other recreational pursuits. Unfortunately, not all users respect the privilege to use those lands, and House Bill 356 can help reduce the liability of landowners who graciously open their lands to others to recreate upon. Lack of places to recreate is often cited as a reason for the declining number of hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts. These bills could help reverse that trend by providing additional protection to landowners, and an increasing number of outdoorsmen and women is good for Idaho's societal and economic wellbeing.

For the above reasons we urge you to support House Bill 356. Thank you for consideration of this important matter and for your commitment to Idaho's natural resources.

Respectfully,

Kip Adams  
Director of Conservation