Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the http://gfp.sd.gov/ website with the following information:

ID: 78
Petitioner Name: Scott Johnson
Address: 205 Scotty Philip Ave
         Fort Pierre, SD 57532
Email: stnn1@pie.midco.net
Phone: 605-222-1933
Rule Identification: Bonus point system
Describe Change: Change the current preference point system for ALL big game seasons to a true bonus point system.
Reason for Change: Our current preference point system is a complicated bonus point system and not a true preference point system with cubed points and multiple drawing sequences which benefit older residents with many bonus points. Unfortunately there is much more demand for certain wildlife species like elk that it may even take 20+ years to draw a preferred tag. For that reason many young hunters won’t apply or have any real chances of drawing a tag for many years. In this day and age when hunter recruitment is very important to continue and maintain conservation of our states wildlife, we need to continue to find ways to draw more people to take up hunting. I’m getting older now with my best hunting days behind me now. This proposal isn’t for selfish reasons to benefit myself since I’m sitting with many points (over 15 in a few) in many elk and deer seasons. By simplifying the draw into just one draw and you have extra chances for each years bonus points, it would get rid of the complicated draw system currently used and give new hunters a little more chance of drawing a special tag. This is a very small sacrifice for us older hunters to preserve our states fine hunting heritage.