

Representative Bill Tveit

House District Intro to HB 1236 House Energy and Natural Resources Committee 24 January 2025

Chairman Porter, committee members,

For the record, I am Representative Bill Tveit from Hazen, representing District 33, which consists of all of Mercer County, all of Oliver County and the best parts of McLean and Morton Counties.

HB 1236 is straightforward, short and simple. North Dakota Sportsmen and Women are tired of the narrative surrounding the subject of Chronic Wasting Disease. More over, the ND Sportsmen are convinced that the CWD narrative has little or no credible basis, nor is CWD a significant threat to the ND deer population.

These men and women are no longer interest in helping pay for further studies concerning CWD with their user/license fees.

While Section 1 of the bill acknowledges the involvement, partnership, and direction of the federal government in certain wildlife restoration projects, etc, the entirety of HB 1236 is in Section 2 of this bill:

2. Hunting and fishing license fees and application fees assessed under section 20.1-03-12.2 may only be used only for departmental programs and administration unrelated to chronic wasting disease.

If ND Game & Fish are required to and/or intent on future Cronic Wasting Disease research, with the passage of HB 1236, the Department will have to source research money from somewhere other than user fees.

Mr Chairman, Committee members, others will follow me to answer your questions and share statistics on the past research of CWD projects.

I urge a Do Pass on HB 1236.

Testimony for HB 1236