

1/22/24

House Energy and Natural Resource Committee
RE: HB1325

IN SUPPORT OF

One cannot understand CWD without reviewing the background of a presumed “science” lineage.

It starts with Kuru. Kuru is supposed to be caused by cannibalism in New Guinea. It was out of respect for the deceased, people ate the corpse. Daniel Gajdusek (who was later charged with child molestation) worked with Kuru and no one was able to confirm his findings, and some say the pictures of his work, resembled pork and was a hoax.

Gajdusek had a theory that Kuru was a “slow moving” infectious condition and attempted to prove this by performing experiments and transmission of the disease. He drilled holes into chimpanzee head and placed pureed brain matter. He then said these animals developed symptoms of Kuru and therefore, the first demonstration of infectious spread of a neurodegenerative disease. He further coined Kuru as an “unconventional virus” with a long incubation period that does not cause an immune response (symptoms) from the host. This would mean to detect a disease, we take a test and don’t look at symptoms/immune response.

This was the beginning of the unsubstantiated idea of a slowly moving infectious condition.

Stanley Prusnier became involved in the 1980s and liked Gajdusek’s theory and argued that the definition of a virus should be changed. The definition of a virus is:

The basic concept of an infectious microbe incorporates the assumption that it is genetically alien to the host it invades.

In simple terms, anything infectious is foreign to the body.

Prusnier speculated instead, that this new agent could be a host protein and one of the normal molecules found in healthy brains, would become a mutated brain cell. He said that the infectious proteins would have to be a chemically altered form of a normal protein. This was a preposterous proposal and many virologist did not support this way of thinking because in this example, proteins are a naturally vital part of the bodily system.

With enough Human Dimensions, this theory has been accepted, even although there are no pictures for proof, of this mutant protein. The idea that slow virus (18-24 months) are a thing and prion are a thing, even though they have not been proven, (Prion Hypothesis) is a Human Dimension conception. (Virus is 2 days-2 weeks for symptoms)

Let’s return to the infectious (contagious) proving methods that were used with Kuru and how similar they are to the current studies that the Agencies grasp to with CWD. Brain matter mashed up and injected into drilled holes in the head of chimps in direct comparison to the deer contagious studies of taking “infected” brain matter and shoving it into a healthy deer’s brain, nose, and mouth.

Another study that is accepted by “robust science,” is to put a deer under light anesthesia, wake the deer up enough to drink “infected” saliva, every week, for 3 months. After these 3

months, the deer tested positive (by test only) and no necropsy performed. Massive stress factors and no control group was administered.

Gajdusek did the same type of barbaric experiments with blood, urine, bodily fluid, and spinal fluid. The infected fluids should have been fully apparent in the brain yet, transference to prove contagious did not happen. Months to years later, some of the injected monkeys suffered coordination and movement problems. Yes, would seem logical with inoculations to the brain.

More experiments have been attempted using these methods in an attempt to transfer “infected matter” to other species and resulting in no mutations being seen in brain tissue, even with an electron microscope. Creating brain inflammation by injecting brain material, or any other material by injection, does not prove transmission or contagiousness.

When does the brain ever come into contact with another brain in nature? Injecting blood, urine, or saliva into animals is not causing them to become sick with CWD. NOTHING like this happens in nature. Yet, here we are with reports of the possibility of CWD being in other species and possibly, eventually humans.

This lack of natural infectiousness is proof alone to defeat the CWD fears of a “spread”.

In these experiments there are no controls. There are no comparative animals and therefore, shoddy science. Taking “infected” brains and shoving them into healthy deer to see what happens but, they aren’t taking healthy brains and injecting them into healthy deer as a control. Chances are very high that both would be sick, at the same rate. Shame on the ‘experts’.

The disease that the Agencies tend to compare to CWD is the neurodegenerative disease, CJD (Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease). It is also known as Mad Cow, BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy) It is described as a spongy brain. Most people have heard of CJD but not CWD.

In 2005, CJD was cancelled. (Massive testing ceased and so did BSE)

The BSE hysteria cost Germany 1.5 billion euros. That is equivalent to \$1,562,434. The cattle farms were imposed with obligatory tests on 5.1 million cattle and 200 were deemed positive. If you believe those 200 cattle were infected, that meat would have infected 3 people, at the most, over 30 years. The feeding of bonemeal to cows has been disproven.

In the United States, 787,711 cows were tested from June 2004-August 2006. 4-7 animals were “infected” in a population of 42 million adult cattle. Were these 4-7 necropsied? It has been stated: *Testing all slaughter cattle for BSE could produce an exceedingly high rate of false negative test results and offer misleading assurances of the presence, or absence, of disease.* Hardly an infectious disease. These statistics and methods sound parallel to CWD.

United Kingdom reported that most CJD cases were in northern Scotland while most cattle with BSE, were in southern England. So, cows in Southern England caused CJD in northern Scotland? That would mean that all the meat from these cows, was shipped to northern Scotland and only eaten there. That is not traditionally how the big meat market works.

In 1985 a law was passed in the United Kingdom forcing British farmers to apply Phosmet (insecticide) to the necks of cattle. Phosmet is known to be highly toxic and causes severe neural damage to the brain and nervous system. The government forced neurotoxins on cattle and then they say, “It must be prion” causing a disease.

Great Britain, Northern Ireland and Switzerland were required high concentrations and those countries were where most of BSE occurred. The farmers that were organic and fed the

bonemeal to cows, had no problems. 1990s brought a law that repelled this Phosmet mandate and there was a dramatic reduction of BSE cases. The British government admitted Phosmet was a factor in the onset of BSE and added that this disease can look like a muscle disorder or a wasting disorder that hits the nervous system at any different point and gets slightly different symptoms.

I am not disagreeing that CWD is real and a neurodegenerative disease. **I am disagreeing that it is caused by a magical protein and is infectious.** The lineage of this type of “deadly, fatal disease”, has a historical playbook.

The CWD narrative follows the same playbook of Kuru and Mad Cow. Recently, we have been bombarded with fear-mongering media of H5N1. Another example of HUMAN DIMENSIONS.

H5N1 is an additional bureaucratic narrative that is going after another animal. The cattle (beef and dairy), poultry, sheep, and pork industries have been taking punches for years. KILL THEM ALL TO SAVE THEM ALL has been the ‘expert’ thought process based on “science”.

The H5N1 narrative scare began on an island in the Baltic Sea as Germany came to search for dead birds. They collected and tested, with occasional positive tests, as no one was able to state what caused a positive or negative result. They chose to overlook that only a fraction of the dead birds were positive and no one asked why the birds died. Keep in mind, the Germans were **looking** for dead birds. These birds wintered in Germany and didn’t even come from the Baltic Sea and were isolated so, the swans that were blamed for the outbreak of Avian Influenza, could not have contracted H5N1.

2003-2006, claims of 153 people died of H5N1 yet, there is no proof that it was the killer. If you study the reports of the deceased, there is no evidence that H5N1 was the issue. Some had cold symptoms (thousands die from colds each year). The medicine given to these patients did not show it combatted the H5N1 virus and Tamiflu was the prescription of choice.

Nov 1, 2005 (CIDRAP News) – President George W. Bush today proposed \$7.1 billion in spending to prepare for an influenza pandemic, including \$5 billion for vaccines and drugs, as his administration released an outline of its preparedness strategy.

"At this moment, there is no pandemic influenza in the United States or the world," Bush said in a speech in Bethesda, Md., today. "But if history is our guide, there is reason to be concerned."

He explained the threat posed by the H5N1 avian flu virus, saying it is "still primarily an animal disease" but could spread around the world if it gained the ability to pass efficiently from person to person. "Our country has been given fair warning of this danger to our homeland—and time to prepare," he said.

Bush said his strategy has three main elements: detecting outbreaks anywhere in the world; stockpiling vaccines and antiviral drugs while improving the ability to make new vaccines for a pandemic virus; and improving general readiness at the federal, state, and local levels.

George W. Bush said that 2 million people may die from H5N1 and ordered 200 million bottles of Tamiflu at \$100 each for a bird disease that has never been proven to impact birds, or humans. Tamiflu is being sued under the False Claims Act for \$1.5 billion+.

The human dimensions tactic began fanning the flames of terror and over 100 million animals have died because of this panic. Only a fraction of the deaths have been accounted for by H5N1 and more birds have died from mass exterminations prompted by panic of authorities, then H5N1. It has since been exposed that there is a patent number assigned to H5N1. This would explain why the media did not ask questions, rather they promoted the “unknown” hysteria. Again, a repeat of the thought process, KILL THEM ALL TO SAVE THEM ALL and the repeated statment of, “We just don’t know” when CWD questions are asked.

The CWD narrative with the backing of media, and a threat to humans and other animals, is killing more deer than CWD has, or ever will. North Dakota massacred 50+ deer in a panic reaction when a dead deer was reported in Williston that tested “positive”. A United States Fish and Wildlife crew was called in and together, with NDGF, they murdered healthy deer and fawn, over a corn pile, at night. It has been reported by neighbors as a “blood bath”. The 50+ deer were tested and all announced negative. The meat was disposed of.

The NDGF has stated that they have culling tags mixed in with the submitted allotted rifle tags therefore, having the North Dakota sportsmen perform the culling for them. Director Jeb Williams stated to the House and Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committees on January 10, 2025, “Hunting has to be apart of the solution (to CWD)?”.

The current supplied data for CWD in North Dakota:

49,596 deer tested since 1998
105 detections (not necropsied)
1 confirmation

This one deer in this data report was the “Williston Massacre” deer that was found dead, and in the necropsy report, it was noted a mass was on the deer’s head and could be a contributing factor to the brain damage. Necropsy is the only way to confirm a neurodegenerative disease because you must see the holes in the myelin of the brain. Any other reports of “positive” or “detections” are based solely on a test and are being announced as CWD infected deer which is misinformation.

The repeat of the hypothesized science is deafening as demonstrated with Kuru, Mad Cow (BSE) and H5N1. It seems to be the same playbook with a different species, all back by Human Dimension and shotty science.

The NDGF has also announced that they are focusing on Human Dimensions to “inform the public”. This push started in October of 2022 when the NDGF applied and received, \$96,300 for a grant: *Shifting Behaviors to Lower the Risk of CWD; a multi-media approach*, and then again in 2024 being one of the 16 states to receive funds from the CWD Surveillance and Management (HR 5608) Act worth \$420 million. NDGF was awarded this time with \$168,723 for a grant titled: *Cultivating Long term Engagement with a Long Term Issue*. That is \$265,023 to get **us** to think they way they want us to about CWD.

Why would it be so imperative to submit grants to change or mold the minds of the people of North Dakota? \$265,023 is a substantial amount that could have been used for the deer in areas such as habitat.

All “expert” dialogue is centered around a document titled: AFWA (Association of Fish and Wildlife). This guide is what the Wildlife agencies around the nation, are tied to when repeating the CWD narrative. There is a human dimensions section that spans from pages 87-89. On page 87, there is a section titled: *Best Management Practices involving human dimensions in*

implementing a CWD program. This section also outlines how to use surveys to “explore hunter attitudes related to CWD including effort, success rates, and willingness to accept regulatory changes to manage CWD”.

The second section on this page outlines elements of a communication plan:

- a. Contain key messages about CWD.
 - b. Include and use the best available science, preferably from the host state
 - c. Frequently be updated.
 - d. Endure openness, honesty, and transparency
 - e. Use social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter) to convey information to the widest range of age and cultural segments of the population.
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- a. FEAR seems to be the key message.
 - b. Testing-restricting- culling- human dimensions are the “best available science” tools being used. NOTHING for the deer. KILL THEM TO SAVE THEM.
 - c. To find real data on CWD, one must contact NDGF. Only the information they want exposed is reported. Advisory meetings are protocol and input lies on deaf ears.
 - d. Public is reported that there are 105 detections yet, the only way to confirm CWD is by necropsy so, that confirmation number is **one**. Honesty has been covered by hypocrisy with 5 units that were to be restricted (2 in 2023, 3 in 2024) according to the NDGF criteria, and were not. Transparency is what HB 1325 is about.
 - e. Commercials, billboards, social media, radio, podcasts, search engine marketing, email, printing materials, magazines, tv, radio, mailings, practice targets.

The NDGF seems to be fluent in submitting and receiving federal grants therefore, it would not be an added work load to take this talent and apply for grants that focus on the big game of North Dakota rather than the minds of the people of North Dakota. Perhaps additional habitat efforts.

Human Dimensions manages people, not disease.

The amount of money that has been used for CWD is astounding. Nationwide, over \$1 billion from the federal government. \$919,612 of North Dakotans hunting and fishing license and fees along with \$265,023 in federal grants, which is the people of the United States. All for a HYPOTHESIS.

This CWD disease should actually be called a Testing Epidemic. Testing with methods (ELISA, IHC, Western Blot) that do not detect “prion” and focus on antigen and what is attached to them (bacteria, virus, fungus). Upon a conversation with the manufacturer of tests that use the ELISA method (NDGF tests), he stated that there is an unreliability factor of 4-7%, are similar to the PCR, and do not detect prion. The tests being used are only available to universities, research settings, and agencies. None of these institutions will share what they are testing for. If you attempt to purchase a test, even as a cervid farmer, it would be impossible. Why are these tests so secretive?

These tests are driving the hysteria, decision making and killing of thousands of healthy deer.

When questioning the CWD methods or tools being used by the NDGF, the consistent response is “robust science”. There is a page on the NDGF website with this “science” and also a statement by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency that was approved March 8, 2019. Again, terms of allusiveness (162 in the complete AFWA) and more specifically a paragraph that reads:

However, alternate theories regarding the cause of CWD have been postulated and continue to be examined by some in the scientific community. These theories, which explore possible etiologies including viruses, bacteria, trace mineral imbalances, and others, have been advanced for many years and often are supported by peer-reviewed, scientific publications. While our understanding of CWD epidemiology can benefit from diverse research perspectives and investigations, the preponderance of scientific information currently available strongly supports prions as the causative agent of all TSEs, and this is accepted by the vast majority of scientists working in this field.

The AFWA does not say that “prion” are the causative agent. It states that they support the **consensus** that “prions” are the causative agent for CWD and at this time, is accepted by the majority of the scientists in the field. This statement also points out that there are peer-reviewed etiologies that include virus, bacteria, and trace mineral imbalances (nutrition) that are supported in scientific publications. The NDGF has chosen to follow the “Prion Hypothesis”.

The Associations of Fish and Wildlife have made it clear that they are supporting and following scientific CONSENSUS with the “prion” theory. **There is no consensus in science.** A billion federal dollars has been spent on consensus? Thousands of deer have been killed on consensus? People have been exposed to massive human dimension campaigns based on consensus? Rights are being taken away on consensus?

What makes us think that we need to intervene with CWD? The data does not indicate that interventions are necessary. There is no proof that CWD is contagious. CWD is not directly impacting humans. The numbers do not show panic even if you accept a detection as diseased. The cause of CWD is suspected to be “prion” yet, there is no proof. The atomic structure of a “prion” is not even known. Where are the pictures of “prion” during the scrapie era of 2003-2016?

CWD seems to be a “problem” when federal funds become available (2002, 2012, 2021, 2022).

Sportsmen and landowners are the people that are using common sense and advocating for the deer while resisting the massively funded human dimensions campaign.

In summary, there are lineage situations, methods and “diseases” that demonstrate CWD is not contagious, not deadly, not a “prion” disease, and relies heavily on HUMAN DIMENSIONS to stay valid and threatening. Therefore, why HB 1325 is imperative for the deer and people of North Dakota.

Thank you for investing time in this lineage and supportive testimony for HB 1325.

Respectfully,

Pat Backer

