

I am writing you in regards to HB 1325. I am opposed to this bill and offer the following reasons for this opposition.

The requirement in this bill for Game and Fish to provide a microscopic slide of the prion and necropsy report is an unrealistic approach to CWD monitoring. The proposed process in this bill would require an electron microscope to produce the microscopic slide which is an extremely difficult and costly requirement. The people who crafted this bill are misinformed about CWD testing and are upset about current restrictions surrounding baiting of deer. The current widely accepted practice of IHC testing of the lymph nodes has proven to be both accurate and cost effective for wildlife agencies across the country. It makes absolutely no sense to saddle the North Dakota Game and Fish Department with this added expensive and difficult requirement. Please allow the Game and Fish Department to do its statutory duty to manage wildlife by not legislatively burdening them with senseless requirements and impediments to wildlife management.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed legislation.