

I strongly support HB 1325 and ask a do pass from this committee . For several sessions now whenever a ND game and fish bill comes forth we are told to trust the experts. I feel that it is time to questions this entire CWD narrative. I feel over the last 2 yrs ND game and fish leadership have had an opportunity to improve public education and transparency regarding CWD. They themselves have admitted failures and a need for improvement. However they have chose to do little to nothing besides push propaganda rather than show the public actual data and unreputable proof. I personally sat at public advisory meeting at the ND Game and Fish main office in Bismarck 2 yrs ago, I watched a gentleman ask very specific questions and create dialog at the public advisory meeting. I left disappointed and concerned about how this was handled by Jeb Williams the current director of ND game and fish, who is an unelected official. During this advisory board meeting he dismissed this gentleman's concerns and questions, I personally felt it was a fail from the department. These advisory board meetings are suppose to be an avenue for the department to collect input and communicate with the general public. This advisory board meeting was recorded by the department and this particular interaction is part of that recording. The people have tried to create a dialog with the department to gain understanding and clarity of this disease we are led to believe will decimate our deer population. Yet many of us have witnessed first hand the devastation left by harsh winters and EHD, these are unarguably proven to adversely affect our deer population yet we hear nothing from ND game and fish. CWD has been responsible for 1 deer death in ND, all the rest have been harvested animals tested by the department. So I feel we have every right to question the resources that have been dedicated to CWD vs these proven factors and disease . We have tirelessly tried to persuade ND game and fish to provide facts and data to back the fear driven narrative they have pushed with CWD. They have done nothing to cooperative with the people or gain our trust , these very people are residents who are landowners and outdoorsmen/women. We continually hear how the wildlife belongs to the people and ND game and fish is entrusted with the health and management of said wildlife. We have exhausted every avenue to create communication, transparency, and accountability in regards to CWD. That is why as elected representatives of the people we are asking for your help in this matter. Incidents like I described above have become much too common, we must ask why. I think the answer and what concerns many is the department has shown they know there is no action the people can take if dissatisfied with the performance of the department, this bill will provide accountability and transparency. I ask you represent the people and give us a voice by passing HB 1325. Thank you for your service and dedication to the people of ND. Sincerely, Travis Jensen