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**Testimony of Dr. Ethan Andress
State Veterinarian
House Energy and Natural Resources
Coteau AB Room
January 24, 2025**

Chairman Porter and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I am Dr. Ethan Andress, State Veterinarian here on behalf of Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and the State Board of Animal Health. I am here today in opposition to HB 1325, relating to positive detections of chronic wasting disease.

The proposed language in HB 1325 is unnecessary and burdensome. Additional requirements for documentation of Chronic Wasting Disease added in line 16 of HB 1325, specifically, "The microscope slide of the prion and necropsy report" are concerning. This language provides for no additional benefit to the industry or the public.

The requirements are not considered standard protocol within the cervid industry or regulatory agencies. Current testing for industry and wildlife are broadly recognized by our state trading partners.

Chairman Porter and committee members, thank you for your time. I urge a do not pass on HB 1325. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.