Resolution on Chronic Wasting Disease

WHEREAS, Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease of the deer family that is spreading across North America; and

WHEREAS, the majority of states and provinces in the Midwest have reported incidences of CWD; and

WHEREAS, research in Wisconsin has shown a $50 million annual economic impact, which is magnified across the 10 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces where it has been found; and

WHEREAS, older bucks are more likely to be infected, with some counties having a 30 percent prevalence rate, thus increasing the possibility of spread through the transportation of non-clinical animals and animal material; and

WHEREAS, the American Conservation Enhancement Act, signed in October 2020, established an interdepartmental CWD Task Force in the U.S. Department of the Interior, and additional funding has been provided to states through the U.S. Department of Agriculture to further develop response activities; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Midwestern Legislative Conference urges Midwestern states to assist with these federal efforts by banning the importation of any part of the spinal column of Cervidae carcasses, unless delivered directly to a licensed meat processor or licensed taxidermist; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state, federal and provincial officials.