



Midwestern Legislative Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

75th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments

July 11 – 14, 2021

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.

Adopted this 14th day of July, 2021 at the 75th MLC Annual Meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota