

Amy Cordry
26006 County Road 9
Winona MN 55987
RE: HF 1727(Eklund) Agriculture Finance and Policy

As the at-large member of the public on the Board of Animal Health Farmed Cervid Rulemaking Committee, a farm owner in the southeast Minnesota CWD management zone, and living adjacent to a decommissioned cervid farm, I offer the following for your consideration;

Sec.5. (c) lines 3.30-3.31 The board must not allow new registration under this section for possessing white-tailed deer.

Given the pervasive and continuing cases of CWD in cervid farms in Minnesota, we are only playing “whack-a mole” at great expense and danger to wild cervids in the efforts to control CWD. Stopping new registrations will allow the regulatory agencies the time and dollars to focus on the existing situation. Minnesota citizens resent the millions of dollars being spent to fruitlessly attempt to control CWD outbreaks on cervid farms, as well as the extraordinary payouts to decommission those farms.

Sec. 6.Supd. 11 Lines 4.7-4.8 A person must not move farmed white-tailed deer from any premises to another location.

Movement among cervid farms is the prevalent cause of the transmission of CWD. As evidence I submit the double fenced since 2017 Houston County cervid farm outbreak which was traced to movement of deer from a Winona County cervid farm.

Sec.8 Lines 5.1-5.6 TRANSFER OF DUTIES: FARMED CERVIDAE

In my responsibilities on the BAH committee, I found the DNR to be an excellent source of easily accessed and transparent CWD information. The DNR has proven themselves capable in scientific study and action in many areas, just what we need for CWD farm cervid control. My efforts to access CWD information from the BAH were difficult and often impossible. This does not lend itself to citizen trust for the BAH.

As is evident for a number of years, there needs to be major improvements in the area of CWD monitoring and control and I believe the above changes are a much needed improvement that will make a positive difference.