

Subject Farmed cervids
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Overview

This bill would require the depopulation of an entire farmed cervid herd when one animal tests positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD). The herd's owner would be responsible for all euthanization and disposal costs, unless public funds are available for the same purposes.

Under current law, the Board of Animal Health must quarantine a farmed cervid herd that is infected with CWD. A herd owner may choose to depopulate an infected herd or remain under quarantine for five years (Minn. Rules, part 1721.0420). According to a 2018 report by the Office of the Legislative Auditor, of the eight Minnesota herds that have been identified as CWD-positive, seven were depopulated and the other remained under quarantine.