



OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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Chair Dembrow and Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

For the record I am Al Elkins representing the Oregon Hunters Association (OHA). I am here today to testify in support of HB 2294, a bill that requires a commercial product that contains or is derived from cervid urine and designed for luring, attracting or enticing cervids be from herd free of chronic wasting disease.

First of all, we would like to thank Rep. Brad Witt for bringing this bill forward. In our opinion Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is the biggest threat to Oregon's wildlife population. OHA has a membership base of nearly 10,500 members, that work through a twenty-six chapters state-wide. In soliciting input on this bill one of our members outlined the key points made by the ODFW Veterinarian Colin in a recent visit to their chapter in 2018:

- It was not IF, but WHEN, CWD would reach Oregon and likely with a devastating impact on cervid herd when it happens;
- The current science is in its infancy on CWD and there is no cure. All in all, it is very scary stuff.
- Long story short, it is best if we support every effort to keep CWD out of Oregon.

These comments typify the why OHA has battled CWD at every turn in Oregon. We understand that the bill would ban products that may be used by some, but there are synthetic products on the market as well.

In conclusion, OHA supports this bill wholeheartedly. We urge the committee to support it as well. That concludes my testimony, I would be glad to answer any questions.