



IOWA HOUSE DEMOCRATS

BILL SUMMARY

Containing the Spread of Diseases in Wild Animals HF 2466

Status of Bill: House Calendar

Committee: Natural Resources (21-0)

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Lead Democrat: Rep. Nielsen

Floor Manager: Rep Baxter

Background

Currently there is no state agency specifically in charge of containing diseases from spreading in wild animals and there are no regulations on imported deer meat. Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is spreading in Iowa and there is fear of it spreading to swine. Up until recently CWD had only been identified in Clayton and Allamakee Counties, however a harvested deer in Wayne County recently tested positive for CWD.

Summary

The bill designates the Department of Natural Resources as the agency in charge of containing the spread of diseases in wild animals. The legislation gives the DNR the authority to establish zones, create special hunting seasons, require samples from harvested animals, and other necessary actions to stop the spread of diseases. The bill also establishes regulations on imported deer meat from states and providences with chronic wasting disease, in effort to stop the spreading of the disease from other states and providences.