## **Citizen Resolution # 090323**



## Slow the spread of CWD in our state by banning the baiting and feeding of deer state-wide.

Chronic Wasting Disease is a fatal, infectious nervous system disease of deer, moose, elk, and caribou. It belongs to the same family of prion diseases as mad cow in bovines and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans and is always fatal. The Center for Disease Control recommends that hunters test their deer for CWD and not consume positive deer meat. The shed prions are extremely difficult to kill and remain in the environment for a very long time.

CWD continues to spread across our state. 55 of 72 counties currently have baiting and feeding bans because of it. It poses a significant threat to our deer herd as well a potential threat to the people consuming deer meat. This further threatens a major benefit to our economy that hunting provides as well as a principal funding source for our DNR and numerous conservation practices across our state.

CWD is spread by close association of deer and exponentially multiplied by the unnatural concentration of deer at feeding and baiting sites. While scientific solutions to CWD are currently being researched, any solutions to the disease will not be available until far into the future. To protect the continued deer hunting heritage of our state it is critical that we do everything possible to stop the spread of this disease. The most effective step we can take is to totally ban the practice of deer feeding and baiting state-wide.

## Would you support the Conservation Congress working with the state legislature to ban the baiting and feeding of deer state-wide until an acceptable solution to CWD is found?

Additional Information provided by author: dnr.wi.gov CWD results

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