

1 WHEREAS, the introduction of CWD into Louisiana could potentially be devastating
2 to the deer hunting and breeding communities in the state and the businesses that support
3 those activities, so all efforts to prevent the introduction of the disease into Louisiana should
4 be investigated; and

5 WHEREAS, a task force of experienced and interested parties could function in an
6 advisory manner to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of Agriculture
7 and Forestry, and the legislature as policies for management and prevention of CWD in
8 Louisiana are discussed, recommended, and developed.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
10 create the "Cervid (Deer)/Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force" in the Department of
11 Wildlife and Fisheries as follows:

12 A. There is hereby established the Cervid (Deer)/Chronic Wasting Disease
13 Task Force to study and monitor cervids and chronic wasting disease issues in the
14 state of Louisiana and to make recommendations regarding the management of
15 cervids and chronic wasting disease issues in the state.

16 B. The task force shall be composed as follows:

17 (1) The deer program leader from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

18 (2) The state wildlife veterinarian from the Department of Wildlife and
19 Fisheries.

20 (3) The state veterinarian or the assistant state veterinarian from the
21 Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

22 (4) The assistant commissioner for the office of animal health and food
23 safety of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

24 (5) A representative from the Louisiana State University AgCenter's Bob R.
25 Jones Wildlife Research Institute appointed by the dean of the center.

26 (6) A large animal veterinarian with cervid experience from the Louisiana
27 State University School of Veterinary Medicine appointed by the dean of the school.

28 (7) A representative from the Quality Deer Management Association.

29 (8) A representative from the Louisiana Landowners Association.

30 (9) A representative from the Whitetails of Louisiana.

1 C. The members appointed pursuant to the provisions of Paragraphs (B)(1)
2 through (6) of this Section shall be nonvoting members. However, they shall be
3 considered members of the task force for determination of the number of members
4 necessary for a quorum and for establishing the presence of a quorum.

5 D. Five members of the task force shall constitute a quorum sufficient to
6 conduct meetings of the task force. The task force shall elect a chairman from its
7 membership. If the chairman is a representative of a state agency, the chair may vote
8 in the case of a tie. The task force may seek and receive assistance from universities
9 within the state in the development of methods to manage and prevent chronic
10 wasting disease in the cervids of the state of Louisiana. The members of the task
11 force shall serve without compensation; however, the task force members
12 representing state agencies may receive the same reimbursement of travel expenses
13 for attending task force meetings as is allowed for other state employees' travel.

14 E. The task force is hereby charged with the responsibility to make
15 recommendations with respect to issues pertaining to management and prevention
16 of chronic wasting disease in cervids, including public awareness programs, to the
17 various state agencies charged with the responsibility for managing the cervids in
18 this state, including the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Department of
19 Agriculture and Forestry, and the legislature. The task force shall seek the best
20 available science, consider hunter- and manager-based solutions, and gather input
21 from various stakeholder groups.

22 F. The Cervid (Deer)/Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force shall submit an
23 annual report to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and
24 the Senate Committee on Natural Resources no later than February 1 of each year.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
26 secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the commissioner of the Department
27 of Agriculture and Forestry, the vice president of the LSU AgCenter, the dean of the LSU
28 School of Veterinary Medicine, the Quality Deer Management Association, the Louisiana
29 Landowners Association, and the Whitetails of Louisiana.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Bishop

Creates the "Cervid (Deer)/Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force" in the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries.