

By: Curry

H.B. No. 4925

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a statewide Chronic Wasting Disease plan.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 11, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by adding Subchapter Q to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER Q. CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE IN DEER.

Sec. 1.01. ASSESSMENT BY THE TEXAS A&M COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES. (a) The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall evaluate the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife's overall Chronic Wasting Disease management since 2015 in general and the department's implementation of the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife's August 2020 Chronic Wasting Disease Management Plan.

(b) The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall compare the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife's overall Chronic Wasting Disease management since 2015 in general and the department's implementation of the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife's August 2020 Chronic Wasting Disease Management Plan to:

(1) Other states' plans and policies related to Chronic Wasting Disease in deer;

(2) Any national standards related to Chronic Wasting Disease in deer; and

1       (3) Any generally accepted practices related to Chronic  
2 Wasting Disease in deer.

3       (c) The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and  
4 Biomedical Sciences shall create a Statewide Chronic Wasting  
5 Disease Plan that describes plans and policies used by other  
6 states, national standards, and any other generally accepted  
7 practices related to Chronic Wasting Disease in deer.

8       (d) The executive director of the Texas Department of Parks  
9 and Wildlife shall implement the practices described by the Texas  
10 A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences'  
11 Statewide plan related to Chronic Wasting Disease in the state's  
12 deer population.

13       (e) The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and  
14 Biomedical Sciences shall monitor the Texas Department of Parks  
15 and Wildlife's implementation of the Statewide Chronic Wasting  
16 Disease Plan. The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and  
17 Biomedical Sciences shall create a report detailing the Texas  
18 Department of Parks and Wildlife's implementation of the Statewide  
19 Chronic Wasting Disease Plan. The Texas A&M College of Veterinary  
20 Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall send the report to each  
21 member of the legislature, the lieutenant governor, and the Texas  
22 Sunset Commission before the beginning of each legislative session.

23       SECTION 2. Chapter 161, Agriculture Code, is amended by  
24 adding Subchapter I to read as follows:

25       SUBCHAPTER I. CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE IN DEER.

26       Sec. 1.01. ASSESSMENT BY THE TEXAS A&M COLLEGE OF  
27 VETERINARY MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES. (a) The Texas A&M

1 College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall  
2 evaluate the Texas Animal Health Commission's overall Chronic  
3 Wasting Disease management since 2015 in general and the  
4 department's implementation of the Texas Department of Parks and  
5 Wildlife's August 2020 Chronic Wasting Disease Management Plan.

6 (b) The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and  
7 Biomedical Sciences shall compare the Texas Animal Health  
8 Commission's overall Chronic Wasting Disease management since 2015  
9 in general and the Texas Animal Commission's implementation of the  
10 Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife's August 2020 Chronic  
11 Wasting Disease Management Plan to:

12 (1) Other states' plans and policies related to Chronic  
13 Wasting Disease in deer;

14 (2) Any national standards related to Chronic Wasting  
15 Disease in deer; and

16 (3) Any generally accepted practices related to Chronic  
17 Wasting Disease in deer.

18 (c) The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and  
19 Biomedical Sciences shall create a Statewide Chronic Wasting  
20 Disease Plan that describes plans and policies used by other  
21 states, national standards, and any other generally accepted  
22 practices related to Chronic Wasting Disease in deer.

23 (d) The executive director of the Texas Animal Health  
24 Commission shall implement the practices described by the Texas A&M  
25 College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences' Statewide  
26 related to Chronic Wasting Disease in the state's deer population.

27 (e) The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and

Biomedical Sciences shall monitor the Texas Animal Health Commission's implementation of the Statewide Chronic Wasting Disease Plan. The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall create a report detailing the Texas Animal Health Commission's implementation of the Statewide Chronic Wasting Disease Plan. The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall send the report to each member of the legislature, the lieutenant governor, and the Texas Sunset Commission before the beginning of each legislative session.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.