



# New Legislation Would Address Deadly Disease Facing Deer, Elk, Moose

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News for Immediate Release

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WASHINGTON –A new bill would provide critical investments to study and stop the spread of chronic wasting disease, a fatal neurological disease threatening deer, elk, and moose populations in the United States. The Chronic Wasting Disease Research and Management Act, introduced by Representatives Ron Kind (D-Wis.) and Glenn Thompson (R-Pa.) will help researchers better understand the disease, give state and Tribal experts the resources they need to control its spread, and protect wildlife.

“Chronic wasting disease is one of the greatest threats facing deer, elk, and moose populations across the country, jeopardizing hunting opportunities, ecosystems, and our nation’s outdoor economy,” said Mike Leahy, director for wildlife, hunting, and fishing policy for the National Wildlife Federation. “We are grateful for Representatives Kind and Thompson’s steadfast leadership on this critical issue. The bipartisan Chronic Wasting Disease Research and Management Act will help ensure state and Tribal agencies on



the front lines of controlling this disease have the resources they need to better understand and stop its spread.”

While currently chronic wasting disease has not been detected in Arizona, it has been found in the neighboring states of Utah, New Mexico, and Colorado. Chronic wasting disease is a highly transmissible disease that spreads among members of the deer family, including white-tailed deer, mule deer, and elk, that are critical to Arizona’s ecosystems and sporting traditions. The disease is nearly always fatal and, once established in an area, hard to control.