

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

". . . conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them since 1940."

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Resolution No. 5C, 2017

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SUBJECT: BAN ON THE USE OF DEER URINE

<u>WHEREAS</u>, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a neurodegenerative disease of deer and other cervids that is infectious, always fatal, and there is currently no known cure; and

<u>WHEREAS</u>, CWD has not been found in Louisiana, but has been found in bordering states of Texas and Arkansas; and

<u>WHEREAS</u>, CWD is caused by mutated proteins called prions that are spread by deer-to-deer contact, or by contact with urine, feces, saliva, and body parts of infected deer; and

WHEREAS, infectious materials in soil persist for years and infected soil is almost impossible to disinfect; and

WHEREAS, CWD is most commonly found in deer pens and captive facilities; and

<u>WHEREAS</u>, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) passed regulations on the importation of cervid carcasses effective March 1, 2017 in an effort to reduce the likelihood of introducing CWD into Louisiana's whitetail deer populations; and

<u>WHEREAS</u>, deer urine collected from animals in deer pens and captive facilities is commonly sold throughout the state as an attractant and is scattered in areas where deer are hunted; and

<u>WHEREAS</u>, deer hunting activities have a huge retail economic impact, as well as a positive impact on hunting property values, both of which would be diminished if CWD is ever identified in Louisiana.

<u>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED</u> that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation (LWF), in an effort to further reduce the risk of CWD in Louisiana's deer herd, urges the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and any other responsible state agencies to place a ban on the use of deer urine collected from animals in deer pens and captive facilities.

<u>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED</u> that LWF urges the Louisiana Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign into law, any enabling legislation required to effect this ban.

Adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation in Convention Assembled, August 19, 2017 in Lafayette, Louisiana.