

## SENATE BILL No. 32

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 14-22-34.5.

**Synopsis:** Prevention of chronic wasting disease. Requires the department of natural resources to establish a pilot program to combat chronic wasting disease in deer.

**Effective:** July 1, 2025.

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January 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

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First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 32

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning natural and cultural resources.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1       SECTION 1. IC 14-22-34.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2025]:

4       **Chapter 34.5. Chronic Wasting Disease Pilot Program**  
5       **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "chronic wasting disease" means**  
6 **a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy that infects deer and**  
7 **causes a deer to develop lesions in the brain and experience:**

- 8           (1) the loss of body condition;  
9           (2) behavioral changes;  
10          (3) excessive salivation;  
11          (4) increased drinking and urination;  
12          (5) depression; and  
13          (6) death.

14       **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "genomically estimated breeding**  
15 **value (GEBV)" means a statistically generated number or score**  
16 **that estimates the total genetic potential of an animal with respect**  
17 **to heritable trait.**



1       **Sec. 3.** As used in this chapter, "pilot program" means the  
 2 chronic wasting disease pilot program established under section 4  
 3 of this chapter.

4       **Sec. 4.** Not later than December 31, 2025, the department shall  
 5 establish the chronic wasting disease pilot program to enhance the  
 6 genetic durability of Indiana's white-tailed deer population.

7       **Sec. 5.** The department shall do the following:

8       (1) Collect DNA samples to establish a baseline of average  
 9 genetic codon markers and genomic breeding values for  
 10 native, free-range Indiana white-tailed deer.

11       (2) Establish a testing location for DNA samples collected  
 12 from native, free-range Indiana white-tailed deer.

13       (3) Create and operate a captive breeding program for native,  
 14 free-range Indiana white-tailed deer that:

15       (A) identifies white-tailed deer genetically resistant to  
 16 chronic wasting disease by assigning white tailed deer a  
 17 genomically estimated breeding value (GEBV);

18       (B) breeds the genetically resistant white-tailed deer to  
 19 increase the population's genetic resistance to chronic  
 20 wasting disease; and

21       (C) releases the bred female and male white-tailed deer  
 22 between February and April 2027.

23       (4) Take any additional action necessary to establish and  
 24 operate the pilot program.

25       **Sec. 6.** (a) The department may sell white-tailed deer bred from  
 26 the pilot program for five hundred dollars (\$500) per deer.

27       (b) The department shall not sell more than fifty percent (50%)  
 28 of the bred white-tailed deer from the pilot program.

29       **Sec. 7.** Funds collected from the sale of white-tailed deer bred  
 30 from the pilot program shall be deposited in the fish and wildlife  
 31 fund.

32       **Sec. 8.** The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
 33 implement this chapter.

34       **Sec. 9.** This chapter expires January 1, 2028.

