

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD INTRODUCES CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE BILL LEGISLATION WOULD COORDINATE RESPONSE TO DISEASE

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) on Thursday introduced a comprehensive bi-partisan Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) bill that would coordinate and increase the federal response on the disease, which has impacted Colorado and seven other states.

U.S. Senators Russ Feingold (D-WI) Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO) and Herb Kohl (D-WI) joined Allard as original co-sponsors on the bill.

“The goal of this legislation is to put in place a coordinated effort to battle Chronic Wasting Disease,” said Allard. “This unified approach will ensure USDA and Interior have the resources necessary to assist Colorado and other states currently battling CWD.”

Allard’s legislation, the Chronic Wasting Disease State Support Act of 2002, would:

- Create a national repository, that contains surveillance and monitoring data for both captive and wild deer and elk. (Interactive Internet based website that will store data from state and federal agencies to track the disease.)
- Directs the Secretary of Interior to develop a modeling program of the diseases spread in the wild - including environmental data and permanent information.
- Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a sampling protocol to be used by state and federal agencies for the collection and stabilization of tissue samples.
- Requires within 45 days of enactment the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program for certification of federal and non-labs conducting CWD testing.
- Expands research into the development of live tests and field diagnostic testing.

