



March 12, 2026

Members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives
Oklahoma State Capitol
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

RE: Opposition to HB 3270

Dear Members of the Oklahoma Legislature:

We write to share our opposition of House Bill 3270 (HB 3270). While this legislation began as a feral swine bill, it has since been amended into a proposal that undermines the authority of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) to manage and protect Oklahoma's native deer herd.

Our coalition wrote to you in 2024 to oppose related legislation, the CWD Genetic Improvement Act (HB 3462). Our position remains unchanged: releasing captive white-tailed deer to intentionally comingle with wild deer presents significant risks to wildlife management, disease control, and the long-term health of Oklahoma's deer herd. At the very least, decisions about such a consequential program must remain grounded in science and led by the state's professional wildlife managers.

HB 3270 moves the state in the opposite direction. ODWC is the entity charged with managing the state's wildlife resources and is the state's leading authority on wildlife science and management. Removing ODWC from a central role in this pilot program sidelines the very

experts entrusted with protecting Oklahoma’s wildlife and undermines the agency’s mission to manage and protect fish and wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of all Oklahomans.

ODWC has been actively carrying out that work, collecting samples across the state during the 2024–2025 and 2025–2026 hunting seasons to establish a scientific baseline of CWD genetic resistance in the wild herd. HB 3270 disregards that ongoing effort. By shifting permitting authority from ODWC to the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and advancing to the next phase of the program before the research is complete, the bill removes scientific oversight and introduces unnecessary risk to our state’s wild deer herd.

Oklahoma’s wildlife is a public resource held in trust for all citizens. Decisions that could affect the health and future of that resource should remain in the hands of trained wildlife professionals and should be guided by sound science, not rushed forward before the data is available.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask you to vote **NO on HB 3270** and uphold the authority of the ODWC to manage the state’s wildlife resources responsibly and rooted in science.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

National Deer Association

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Boone & Crockett Club

Conservation Coalition of Oklahoma

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Mule Deer Foundation

The Origins Foundation

Pope & Young Club

Oklahoma Hunters & Anglers

The Nature Conservancy

The Wildlife Society

National Wildlife Federation

The Wildlife Society – Oklahoma Chapter

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers