## JIM GREGORY, MEMBER

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Pennsylvania Game Commission Bryan Burhans, Executive Director 2001 Elmerton Ave. Harrisburg, PA 17110



## COMMITTEES

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES
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September 18, 2019

Dear Mr. Burhans,

I write to you today with concerns about the Pennsylvania Game Commission using misleading information in its marketing materials and presentations related to Chronic Wasting Disease.

Thousands of dollars are being spent to provide marketing support and resources for the new plan to manage CWD, while at the same time the message being delivered is either deliberately misleading or, at the minimum, grossly inaccurate.

Specifically, the graph (shown below) and accompanying video currently being used to support the Game Commission's messaging shows the state of West Virginia trending with a prevalence of CWD at 34%.

This is an affront to the effort to manage CWD by incorrectly portraying our good neighbor to the south as having such a horrible crisis on its hands.

The truth of the facts in West Virginia is that in three counties located on the Eastern Panhandle, the prevalence is 34%. As a state, West Virginia's prevalence is less than 1%.

I am asking the Pennsylvania Game Commission to cease and desist with its incorrect message, issue an apology to West Virginia's sportsmen for painting the state in this dire light, and acknowledge the attempt to purposely mislead the hunters, landowners and outdoors enthusiasts of the Commonwealth.

I welcome your prompt response to these concerns.

Jim Gregory

Sincerely

State Representative 80<sup>th</sup> Legislative District