



1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 634

October 26, 1995 - Introduced by Representatives HASENOHRL, OTT, GUNDERSON, BALDUS, GOETSCH, VANDER LOOP, HAHN, KREUSER, SERATTI, GRONEMUS, BOYLE, GARD, HUTCHISON and HUBER, cosponsored by Senators RUDE, SHIBILSKI and BURKE. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 29.107 (5) (a) and 29.227 (1) (c); and **to create** 29.107 (7) of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** issuance of special deer hunting permits to certain
3 minors.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a minor under the age of 12 may not hunt with a firearm. Also, except for the hunting safety certificate of accomplishment, the department of natural resources (DNR) may not issue any type of hunting approval to a minor under the age of 12. DNR issues a certificate of accomplishment to a minor under the age of 12 when the minor successfully completes a hunter education and firearm safety course. This certificate only authorizes the hunting of small game and can only be used once the minor reaches the age of 12.

Under current law, DNR uses a continuous preference system to select which hunters will receive special deer hunting permits when the number of applicants seeking the permits exceeds the number of permits that will be issued. Under current law, first preference in issuing these permits under the continuous preference system is given to landowners who are state residents and who own at least 50 acres in one parcel. Under this bill, minors who are state residents and who are at least 11 years of age but under 16 years of age and who have certificates of accomplishment are also placed in the first preference category for the issuance of these permits. A minor may apply for an approval only for the first deer hunting season during which he or she is eligible to hunt, and a minor who receives one of these permits at the age of 11 may not use the permit until he or she is 12 years old.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 29.107 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 29.107 (5) (a) *First preference.* The department shall create a first preference
3 category in issuing special deer hunting permits to applicants who are qualified
4 landowners or qualified youths, but not more than 30% of the available special
5 permits for a deer management area for one season may be issued under this
6 preference category.

7 **SECTION 2.** 29.107 (7) of the statutes is created to read:

8 29.107 (7) **QUALIFIED YOUTH.** (a) In order to apply for a special deer hunting
9 permit as a qualified youth, a person shall meet all of the following requirements:

- 10 1. Be a resident.
- 11 2. Be at least 11 years of age.
- 12 3. Have received a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.225 (4).
- 13 4. Be under 16 years of age.
- 14 5. Be applying for a special deer hunting permit for the first deer hunting
15 season following the date on which the person is eligible to hunt.

16 (b) Any special deer hunting permit that a qualified youth 11 years of age is
17 eligible to receive under this section may be issued to the youth while he or she is 11
18 years of age, but the permit is not valid until the youth becomes 12 years of age.

19 **SECTION 3.** 29.227 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 29.227 (1) (c) *Restrictions on obtaining hunting approval.* Except as provided
21 under par. (d) and s. 29.107 (7) (b), no person under 12 years of age may obtain any
22 approval authorizing hunting.

23 **SECTION 4. Initial applicability.**

24 (1) This act first applies to the deer hunting season that follows the effective
25 date of this subsection and for which no application for a special deer hunting permit

1 under the continuous preference system has been received by the department of
2 natural resources.

3 (END)