



2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 345

April 22, 2005 - Introduced by Representatives M. WILLIAMS, PETROWSKI, TURNER, HAHN and ALBERS, cosponsored by Senators DECKER, BRESKE, COWLES and A. LASEE. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 95.55 (2) and 95.55 (5) (b); and *to create* 95.55 (3c), 95.55 (5)
2 (bg) and 95.55 (5) (br) of the statutes; **relating to:** acreage requirements for
3 areas in which farm-raised deer that may be hunted are kept and transfers of
4 registration certificates for keeping farm-raised deer.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) administers the laws that regulate farm-raised deer of any species and that require the registration of owners of farmed-raised deer. Under current rules promulgated by DATCP, a registration certificate authorizing a person to keep farm-raised deer is not transferable to another party. This bill specifically authorizes an individual to transfer his or her registration certificate or his or her ownership interest in a deer farm to a member of his or her immediate family.

Under current law, an owner of a deer farm may not charge a fee for hunting deer on the farm unless the deer to be hunted are confined in a contiguous area of 80 acres or more. This bill creates an exemption to this minimum acreage requirement. Under the bill, if the deer farm was licensed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) under previous law and if other requirements are met, the contiguous area may be less than 80 acres but may not be less than the area authorized under the DNR license. Also, if an individual who owns a deer farm previously licensed by DNR transfers his or her registration certificate or his or her ownership interest to a member of his or her immediate family, the reduced acreage exemption continues to apply.

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For further information see the *state* 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.** 95.55 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 95.55 (2) APPLICATION. A person shall register under this section using a form
3 provided by the department. The form shall be accompanied by the fee specified
4 under sub. (3). Upon registration, the department shall issue the person a
5 registration certificate.

6 **SECTION 2.** 95.55 (3c) of the statutes is created to read:

7 95.55 (3c) TRANSFERS. (a) No person may transfer a registration certificate
8 issued under this section or an ownership interest in a farm registered under this
9 section except as provided in par. (b).

10 (b) An individual may transfer his or her registration certificate or his or her
11 ownership interest in a farm registered under this section to a member of his or her
12 immediate family.

13 **SECTION 3.** 95.55 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 95.55 (5) (b) No owner of farm-raised deer may sell, or offer to sell, the
15 opportunity to hunt farm-raised deer unless the farm-raised deer to be hunted are
16 confined in an area of 80 contiguous acres or more, except as provided in pars. (bg)
17 and (br).

18 **SECTION 4.** 95.55 (5) (bg) of the statutes is created to read:

19 95.55 (5) (bg) The area required under par. (b) may be less than 80 contiguous
20 acres if all of the following applies:

