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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

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**2017 Assembly Bill 323**

**Assembly  
Amendment 1**

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*Contact: Larry Konopacki, Principal Attorney  
Rachel E. Letzing, Principal Attorney*

### **ASSEMBLY BILL 323**

Assembly Bill 323 requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish an open season for hunting and trapping woodchucks that begins on July 1 of each year and ends on the following December 31. DNR would not be allowed to impose a bag limit or possession limit for this season.

### **ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1**

Instead of an open season that begins on July 1 of each year and ends on the following December 31, Assembly Amendment 1 requires DNR to establish a year-round open season for hunting and trapping woodchucks, with no bag or possession limit.

Assembly Amendment 1 also adds woodchucks to the list of species (beaver, rabbit, raccoons, and squirrels) that, under current law, a landowner or occupant, and any member of his or her family, may take at any time by means of live trapping with box traps in areas where the discharge of a firearm is illegal. In addition, Assembly Amendment 1 provides that any individual who has the landowner's or occupant's consent may also take any of these species at any time by means of live trapping with box traps in areas where the discharge of a firearm is illegal.

### **BILL HISTORY**

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Jacque on May 30, 2017. On June 7, 2017, the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 11; Noes, 2, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 4.

On June 21, 2017, the Assembly adopted Assembly Amendment 1 and passed Assembly Bill 323, as amended, on voice votes.

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