



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2684/1
ZDW:kjf

2017 SENATE BILL 178

April 13, 2017 - Introduced by Senators TESTIN, TIFFANY, MARKLEIN and STROEBEL, cosponsored by Representatives MURSAU, KRUG, TRANEL and KREMER. Referred to Committee on Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry.

- 1 **AN ACT to amend** 77.82 (1) (bp) 2. c.; and **to create** 77.82 (1) (bp) 3. of the statutes;
- 2 **relating to:** fences on closed managed forest land.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under this bill, the prohibition on a fence that prevents the free and open movement of wild animals across managed forest land (MFL) does not apply if the fence is used for dog training on closed MFL owned by a nonprofit organization that holds a dog club training license.

Under current law, certain forested land may be designated as MFL under a program administered by the Department of Natural Resources. Under this program, the owner of land designated as MFL makes an annual acreage share payment that is lower than, and in lieu of, the property taxes that normally would be payable. In exchange, the owner must comply with certain forestry practices and have a management plan prepared for the land. The owner must also open the MFL to the public for certain recreational activities, but may designate up to a certain number of acres as being closed to the public. For MFL that is designated as closed, the owner must make an additional payment per acre.

Under current law, a parcel containing a building or an improvement associated with a building is ineligible for designation as MFL. A fence is not considered an improvement unless the fence prevents the free and open movement of wild animals across any portion of the parcel.

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

