



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

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| <b>2003 Wisconsin Act 239</b><br>[2003 Assembly Bill 197]   | <b>Hound Dog Training and Trials</b>  |
| 2003 Acts: <a href="http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/">www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/</a> | Act Memos: <a href="http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm">www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm</a> |

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is required to issue a hound dog training license or a hound dog trial license to an individual who meets the statutorily specified requirements for either of these licenses. (See ss. 169.20 and 169.21, Stats.) The DNR may promulgate rules that establish additional standards, limitations, and requirements for these licenses.

The statutes specify the types of live, captive animals that may be purchased, possessed, released into the wild, and hunted by holders of these licenses. 2003 Wisconsin Act 239 adds fox, coyote, and bobcat to the list of live captive animals that may be released into the wild for hound dog training or trials.

Act 239 directs the DNR to issue either of these licenses to an applicant based on the administrative rules in effect on the date of the application and specifies that the DNR may not delay the issuance of a license pending promulgation of additional, modified, or new rules.

The statutes prohibit a person from selling or offering to sell or purchasing or offering to purchase the opportunity to hunt any wild animal that is or has been captive. The statutes exempt from this prohibition any hunting that is authorized under a bird hunting preserve license. Act 239 adds an exemption for hunting authorized under a dog training license, if the hunting does not involve the release of a captive wild animal into the wild and does not include shooting, shooting at, intentionally killing, or attempting to kill any wild animal. A type of hunting that would satisfy this condition is the pursuit of a wild animal.

Act 239 also establishes that the prohibition on commercial hunting of a captive wild animal does not apply to any of the following:

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents.

- Fees paid to enter into an organized competitive field trial event involving sporting dog breeds that is sanctioned, licensed, or recognized by a local, state, regional, or national dog organization and authorized under a valid bird dog trial license or hound dog trial license.
- Membership fees paid to join a dog club.

***Effective Date:*** The Act takes effect on April 28, 2004.

***Prepared by:*** Mark C. Patronsky, Senior Staff Attorney

April 15, 2004

MCP:tlujal