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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

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<b>2003 Wisconsin Act 274</b> [2003 Senate Bill 391]	<b>Sturgeon Spearing License Requirements</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>

2003 Wisconsin Act 274 modifies the eligibility requirements for a sturgeon spearing license issued by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Prior to March 10, 2003, state law required the DNR to issue a sturgeon spearing license to any person applying for this license who met any of the following conditions:

- Is 14 or 15 years of age.
- Is at least 14 years of age and holds a sports license.
- Holds a resident or nonresident fishing license.

2001 Wisconsin Act 109, as part of its revision of the regulation of sturgeon spearing, deleted the alternative in the third bullet point, above, for receiving a sturgeon spearing license, effective March 10, 2003. The effect of this repeal was that, under the remaining two alternative conditions for receiving a sturgeon spearing license, a person 16 years of age or older must hold a sports license as a condition of receiving a sturgeon spearing license. A sports license is a combination license that provides the privileges of small game and deer hunting licenses and a fishing license.

Act 274 revises the eligibility requirements for a sturgeon spearing license and specifies that anyone who is at least 14 years old may receive a sturgeon spearing license without having any other fishing license. Act 274 does not change the provision in prior law that persons under the age of 14 are not eligible to receive a sturgeon spearing license.

**Effective Date:** May 1, 2004.

**Prepared by:** John Stolzenberg, Chief of Research Services

April 22, 2004

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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.