



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 609

Assembly Amendment 1

Memo published: February 27, 2006

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Current law contains general prohibitions against the unsafe transport and shooting of a firearm, bow, or crossbow in or from a motorboat or vehicle, or across or near a highway.

Two exceptions to these general prohibitions relate to the control of chronic wasting disease. In particular, the prohibitions, except for shooting across a highway, do not apply to a state employee or agent or to a federal employee or agent who is authorized by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to take animals in the wild for the purpose of controlling the spread of disease in animals and is hunting within a DNR-designated chronic wasting disease eradication zone.

In addition, the general prohibitions described above relating to transporting or shooting in or from a vehicle do not apply to a landowner, or a family member or employee of the landowner who is using a firearm, bow, or crossbow to shoot wild animals from a farm tractor or an implement of husbandry on the landowner's land that is located within a DNR-designated chronic wasting disease eradication zone.

Under current law, these exceptions sunsetted on June 30, 2004.

Assembly Bill 609 contains a number of provisions relating to the control and management of chronic wasting disease in deer and elk. One of the provisions in the bill repeals the sunset on the exceptions described above.

Assembly Amendment 1 replaces the repeal of the sunset of these exceptions with a new sunset date of June 30, 2010.

Legislative History

Representatives Freese, Kleefisch, and Gunderson offered Assembly Amendment 1 on February 2, 2006. The Assembly adopted Assembly Amendment 1 and passed Assembly Bill 609, as amended, on separate voice votes on February 2, 2006.

On February 22, 2006, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Transportation recommended concurrence in Assembly Bill 609 by a vote of Ayes, 5; Noes, 0.

JES:ksm:rv