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## **2005 SENATE BILL 558**

February 3, 2006 – Introduced by LAW REVISION COMMITTEE. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Transportation.

AN ACT *to amend* 29.001 (30) and 29.213 of the statutes; **relating to:** hunting of cougars (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Natural Resources).

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill removes references to "cougar" in the definition of "fur-bearing animals" and in the list of animals that a person may hunt with a nonresident fur-bearing animal hunting license.

For further information, see the Notes provided by the Law Revision Committee of the Joint Legislative Council.

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

Law Revision Committee prefatory note: This bill is a remedial legislation proposal, requested by the Department of Natural Resources and introduced by the Law Revision Committee under s. 13.83 (1) (c) 4., stats. After careful consideration of the various provisions of the bill, the Law Revision Committee has determined that this bill makes minor substantive changes in the statutes, and that these changes are desirable as a matter of public policy.

**SECTION 1.** 29.001 (30) of the statutes is amended to read:

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29.001 (30) "Fur-bearing animals" includes otter, beaver, mink, muskrat, marten, fisher, skunk, raccoon, fox, weasel, opossum, badger, wolf, coyote, bobcat, cougar and lynx.

**Section 2.** 29.213 of the statutes is amended to read:

29.213 Nonresident fur-bearing animal hunting license. A nonresident fur-bearing animal hunting license shall be issued subject to s. 29.024 by the department to any nonresident applying for this license. The nonresident fur-bearing animal hunting license authorizes the hunting of skunk, raccoon, fox, weasel, opossum, coyote, and bobcat and cougar during the appropriate open season but does not authorize the hunting of other fur-bearing animals, other small game, deer, elk, or bear.

Note: According to the Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin does not have wild cougar. Further, cougar is listed as a protected species under s. NR 10.02 Wis. Adm. Code. Currently, no resident hunting license authorizes the hunting of cougar in Wisconsin. Therefore, the department recommends deletion of cougar from the authorized hunting under a nonresident fur-bearing animal hunting license.

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