LRB-1131/1 CMH:jld:pg

2005 SENATE BILL 562

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

AN ACT *to amend* 948.60 (3) (c) of the statutes; **relating to:** possession of firearms by juveniles while hunting (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Natural Resources).

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

In one provision in current law, a person under the age of 18, who is in compliance with hunting laws, may possess or go armed with a firearm if the firearm barrel is at least 12 inches in length. The provision also permits an adult to sell, loan, or give a firearm to a person under the age of 18, who is in compliance with hunting laws, if the firearm barrel is at least 12 inches in length. However, current law prohibits a person from selling, offering to sell, transporting, purchasing, possessing, or going armed with a shotgun that has a barrel that is less than 18 inches in length (short-barreled shotgun) or a rifle that has a barrel that is less than 16 inches in length (short-barreled rifle).

This bill permits a person under the age 18, who is in compliance with hunting laws, to possess or go armed with a firearm if the firearm is neither a short-barreled shotgun nor a short-barreled rifle. This bill also permits an adult to sell, loan, or give a firearm to a person under the age of 18, who is compliance with hunting laws, if the firearm is neither a short-barreled rifle nor a short-barreled shotgun.

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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. 948.60 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

948.60 (3) (c) This section does not apply applies only to a person under 18 years of age who possesses or is armed with a firearm having a barrel 12 inches in length or longer and who is rifle or a shotgun if the person is in violation of s. 941.28 or is not in compliance with ss. 29.304 and 29.593. This section does not apply applies only to an adult who transfers a firearm having a barrel 12 inches in length or longer to a person under 18 years of age who if the person under 18 years of age is not in compliance with ss. 29.304 and 29.593 or to an adult who is in violation of s. 941.28.

(END)